# Patuanak
## Planning Study

uma

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**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

February 17, 1986

Mayor and Councillors
Northern Hamlet of Patuanak
General Delivery
Patuanak, Saskatchewan
SOM 2HO

Mr. John Lere, Director
Community Planning
Northern Municipal Services
Saskatchewan Urban Affairs
P.O. Box 3003
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
S6V 6G1

Dear Sirs:

Re: Patuanak Planning Study

We are pleased to submit the Patuanak Planning Study to you at this time. We trust that the Study will serve you well as the formal guide to the future growth of your hamlet. This has been a worthwhile project for our group and we look forward to a continuing working relationship with your community in the future.

There are many people who made significant contributions to the preparation of this document. In particular, we feel that the Council and Town Administrator deserve special acknowledgement. We would also like to thank the Community Planning Branch of Saskatchewan Urban Affairs for their review and comments.

Again, we thank you for your support in the preparation of your guide to the future growth of Patuanak and we wish you much success in its implementation.

Yours sincerely,

UMA GROUP

David H. Klippenstein

David H. Klippenstein, M. A., M.C.I.P.
Head
Planning and Design Department

FL/emg

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## PREFACE

The need for a Planning Study was first discussed at meetings in 1984 between the Patuanak Council and officials of the Community Planning Branch of Saskatchewan Urban Affairs. Funds for the study were subsequently made available by the Department of Urban Affairs. Terms of reference were prepared (see Appendix) and requests for proposals were sent out to various planning consultants in May, 1984. Three consulting firms were interviewed by the then Local Advisory Committee in July, and the UMA Group was selected from these three firms. A contract was signed in August and the initial orientation meeting was held in September of that year.

Throughout the study period, the consultants have emphasized the need for the consultant to spend time in the community to develop an understanding of the local situation to exchange information with local officials to develop a sound data base and to prepare recommendations that are useful and easily understood.

The first seven (7) sections of this report are devoted to a description and analysis of the existing physical and social aspects of the community. Sections 8 and 9 discuss possibilities for physical and economic development.

Section 10 contains planning recommendations for the hamlet to consider and Section 11 is a capital budget proposal.

We are confident that the planning recommendations and capital budget reflect the community needs at this time. We have certainly enjoyed our time spent in Patuanak and hope the results of our work together will help to make Patuanak a better place to live in the years ahead.

We would like to thank all those involved for the enthusiasm and co-operation they have shown throughout the study period. We are especially grateful to:

- Tobie Aubichon, Mayor
- Etienne Black
- Margaret Aubichon
- Mathias Lariviere
- Richard Lariviere
- Malvina Aubichon, Administrtor

In addition, we would like to thank John Lere and Tom Fraser and all other Community Planning staff who have co-operated with us in providing important information and advice. Finally, we would like to thank the residents of Patuanak for their patience, assistance and good will.

## INTRODUCTION

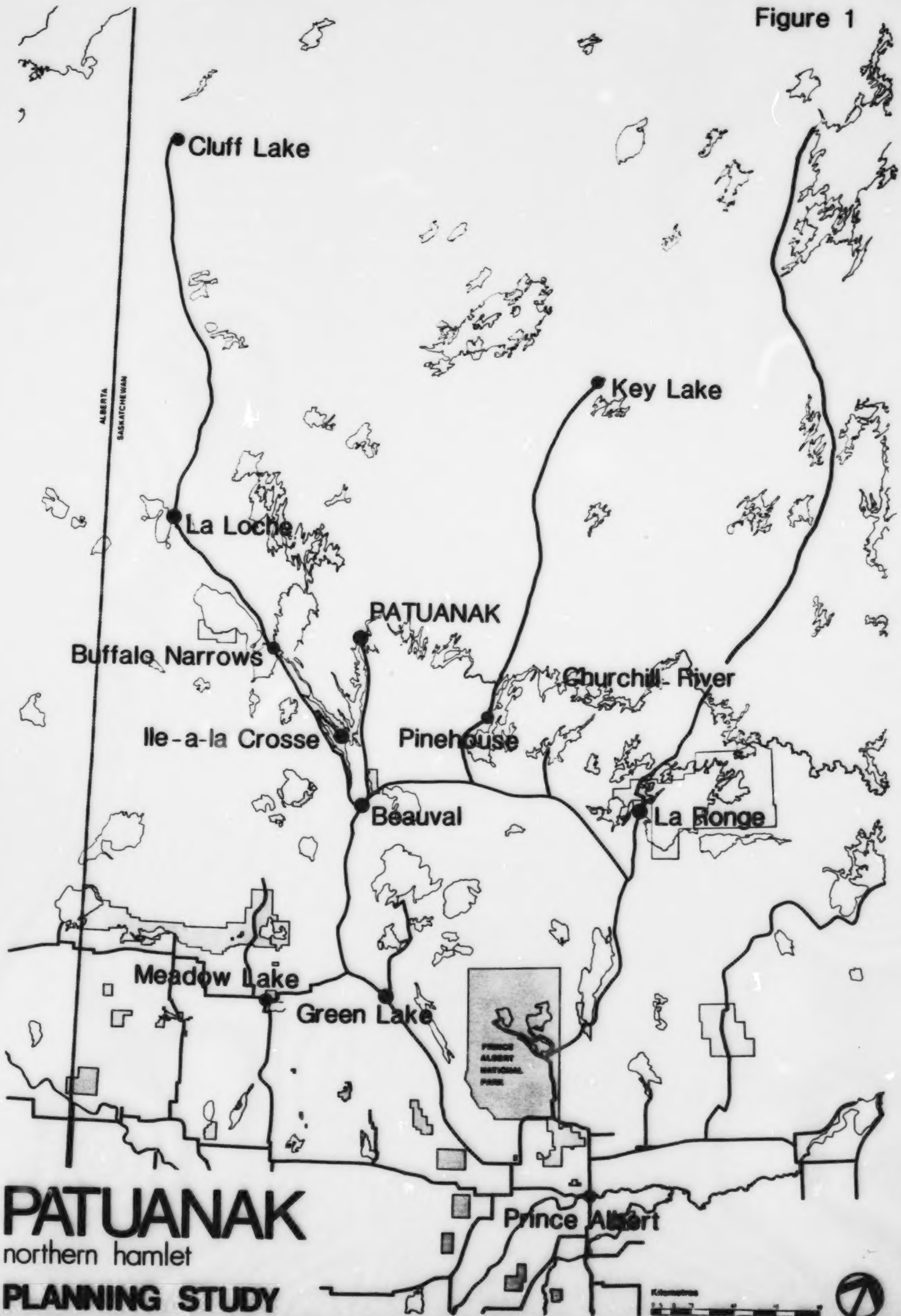
The preparation of a Planning Study for Patuanak is timely and significant. The objective of the planning study is to provide a tool for the Council and people of Patuanak to create an orderly, attractive and liveable community. It provides the opportunity for the community to answer the question, "What kind of community do we want in the future?"

The community of Patuanak is situated in north-western Saskatchewan on the upper Churchill River system. It sits on a peninsula of land with Shagwenaw Lake to the east and Lac Ile a la Crosse to the west. A gravel road connects Patuanak with Beauval, approximately 100 kilometres to the south. The closest large service centre is Meadow Lake which is nearly 250 kilometres to the southwest.

Patuanak is a northern hamlet. It is administered by a mayor, council, and town administrator. It is a community of approximately 200 non- status Indians who have settled here since 1972.

The Hamlet of Patuanak shares the peninsula with Wapachewunak Indian Reserve No. 193D located just to the north.

Figure 1


Cluff Lake
Key Lake
ALBERTA
SASKATCHEWAN
La Loche
PATUANAK
Buffalo Narrows
Churchill River
Ile-a-la Crosse
Pinehouse
Beauval
La Ronge
Meadow Lake
Green Lake
PRINCE ALBERT NATIONAL PARK
Prince Albert
Kilometres

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

About 600 people live there. The communities are both peopled by Chipewyan Indians of the English River Band. However, the ancestors of those on the Reserve side chose to take treaty in 1906, while the ancestors of Hamlet residents did not. Thus the larger community is composed of both status and non-status Indian people.

Change is inevitable and changes have occurred rapidly in northern Saskatchewan in the past few decades. The purpose of planning is not only to make the best of changing circumstances but also to make things happen. The planning study is a survey of the existing physical and social environment, a definition of objectives and goals, and finally, the means to achieve these goals and objectives.

The plan has been divided into eleven sections. The first seven sections deal with the existing problems and possible solutions. The eighth and ninth sections are an exploration of the community's potential development. The tenth section addresses community objectives in the form of 'next steps' and, finally, a preliminary budget for future development has been included. These sections are followed by appendices.

# 1.0 PATUANAK AND ITS REGION

## .1 Location

Patuanak is one of a number of communities located in the northwest portion of the province between Green Lake and La Loche. Together these communities and surrounding lands are collectively known as the "West Side".

Buffalo Narrows is the nearest neighbour to the west, a distance of about 47 kilometres (29.2 miles). It is accessible by air, boat and winter road across Churchill Lake. Ile a la Crosse is to the southwest (53 kilometres/32 miles) across the lake. The nearest community to the south is Beauval, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) away by gravel road.

The nearest large towns are Meadow Lake, which is 245 kilometres (147 miles) to the south, and La Ronge, located 170 kilometres (105 miles) to the east. The cities of Prince Albert and Saskatoon are about 280 and 373 kilometres (175 and 230 miles) to the southeast respectively.

The main linkage betwen the West Side communities is the Provincial Highway 155 which extends from Green Lake in the south to La Loche in the north. Recently the highway has been upgraded and extended north to Cluff Lake. The road from Beauval to La Ronge (Highway 165) has been upgraded and opened for year round use creating a linkage with the central part of northern Saskatchewan.

## 2.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

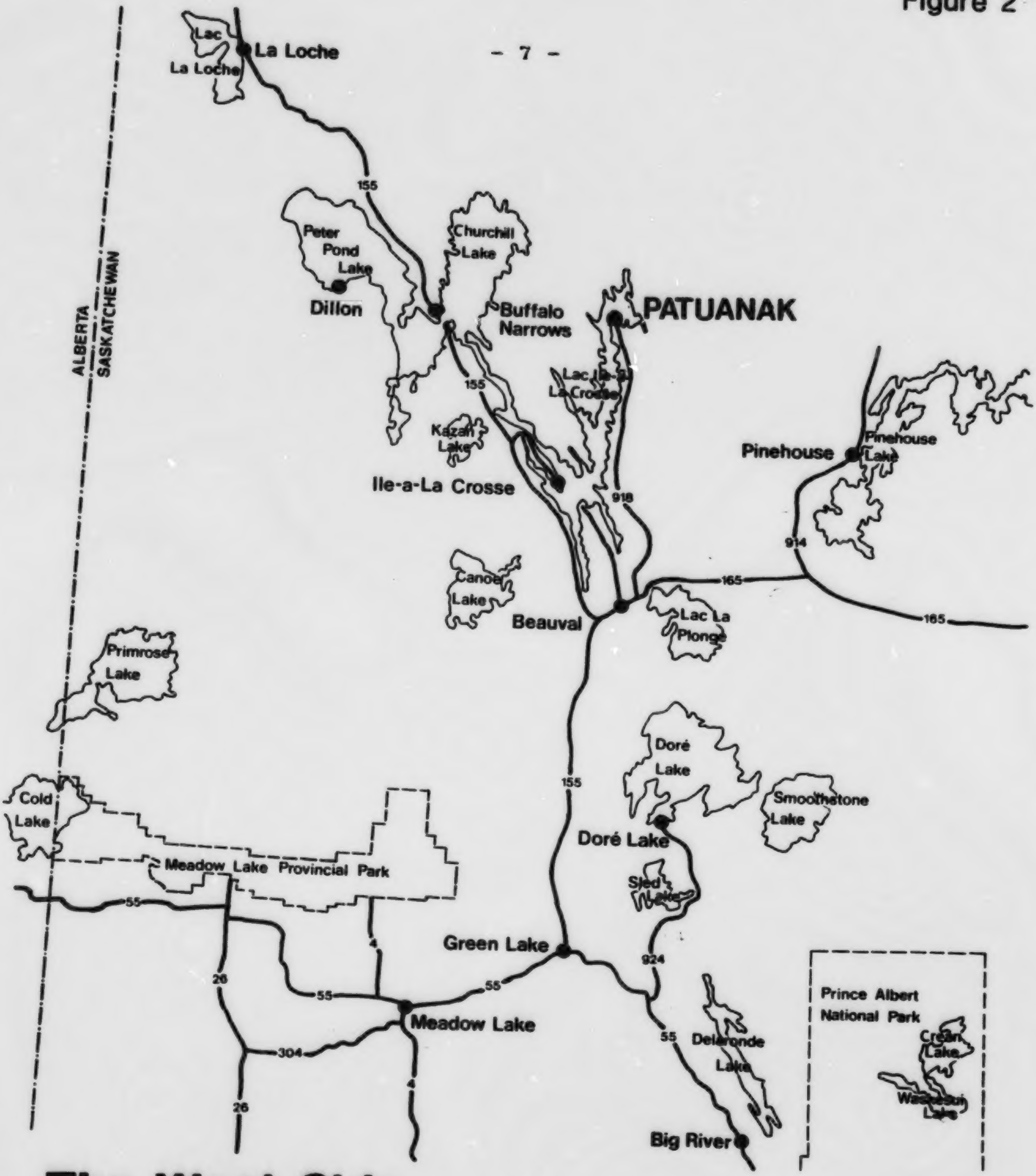
### .1 The West Side

Traditionally the West Side was characterized by basic resource activities such as hunting, trapping and fishing. These basically provided a subsistence living. Since the Second World War other activities such as forestry, construction, mining, government services, retail trade, and tourism have become important.

The shift away from the traditional ways of life has coincided with the increasing concentration of people in urban settlements with modern services. Construction of housing, roads and community facilities has been accompanied by this increase in urban growth. Government programs have contributed substantially to increases in the construction industry.

The growth of small urban centres has also been accompanied by the development of a service sector, with the result that substantial employment is now provided in education, health, government and personal services and in retail trade.

Figure 2


Lac La Loche
La Loche
155
Peter Pond Lake
Dillon
Churchill Lake
Buffalo Narrows
PATUANAK
ALBERTA
SASKATCHEWAN
155
Lac Ile-a-La Crosse
Kazan Lake
Ile-a-La Crosse
918
Pinehouse
Pinehouse Lake
914
165
165
Canoe Lake
Beauval
Lac La Plonge
Primrose Lake
Doré Lake
Smoothstone Lake
155
Cold Lake
Doré Lake
Meadow Lake Provincial Park
Sled Lake
55
Green Lake
4
26
924
55
55
Meadow Lake
Prince Albert National Park
Crean Lake
Waskesiu Lake
304
55
Delaronde Lake
26
4
Big River
0km 10 20 30 40 50

# The West Side

# PATUANAK

## PLANNING STUDY

No one community has emerged as a regional centre. Rather, all communities look to southern centres, especially Meadow Lake for goods and services which are not available locally.

For years it appeared that Ile a la Crosse was the most dominant service centre on the West Side, mainly because of its historical roots in the fur trade and also because it was the site of the only hospital on the West Side. Today, because of concentration of government offices in other centres such as Buffalo Narrows and Green Lake, the building of health centres has caused Ile a la Crosse to lose some of the regional advantages it once enjoyed. Although commercial linkages between communities are not fully developed, one finds many examples of strong family ties between communities.

Forestry provides a limited number of jobs on the West Side. Timber is cut on the lower West Side for sawmills in Green Lake and Meadow Lake and for the pulp mill in Prince Albert.

The mink ranching industry at one time was strong in the Buffalo Narrows and Ile a la Crosse areas. However, since the late 1960's a drastic fall in prices has virtually wiped out all producers.

The development of mining in areas such as Cluff Lake, Key Lake and Pinehouse, which are just outside the region, is having a great impact on West Side communities, both in terms of direct jobs created and in economic spin-off benefits. "We are pleased that more than 30 percent of the apprenticeable trades employment has gone to native northerners, and it should be noted that additional northern employment has been provided for northern residents who are not of Native ancestry" (newspaper article/Appendix).

Patuanak has been somewhat isolated, due to the lack of access. While Buffalo Narrows and Ile a la Crosse are the closest communities as the raven flies, they are distant by road. Beauval is closest by road. Consequently, the road to Beauval has created a more southern orientation for Patuanak, and loosened its ties with the other West Side communities.

## .2 Patuanak

Historically, the people of Patuanak chose not to sign Treaty No. 10 in 1906. Their relatives on the Wapachewunak Reserve are members of the English River Band and were included in Treaty No. 10. Those choosing not to sign became non-status Indians, originally of the English River Band. For many years the non-status and status Indians continued to share fishing and trapping. They lived together in the traditional settlement areas of the English River Band (Primeau Lake, Knee Lake, Dipper Lake and Cree Lake).

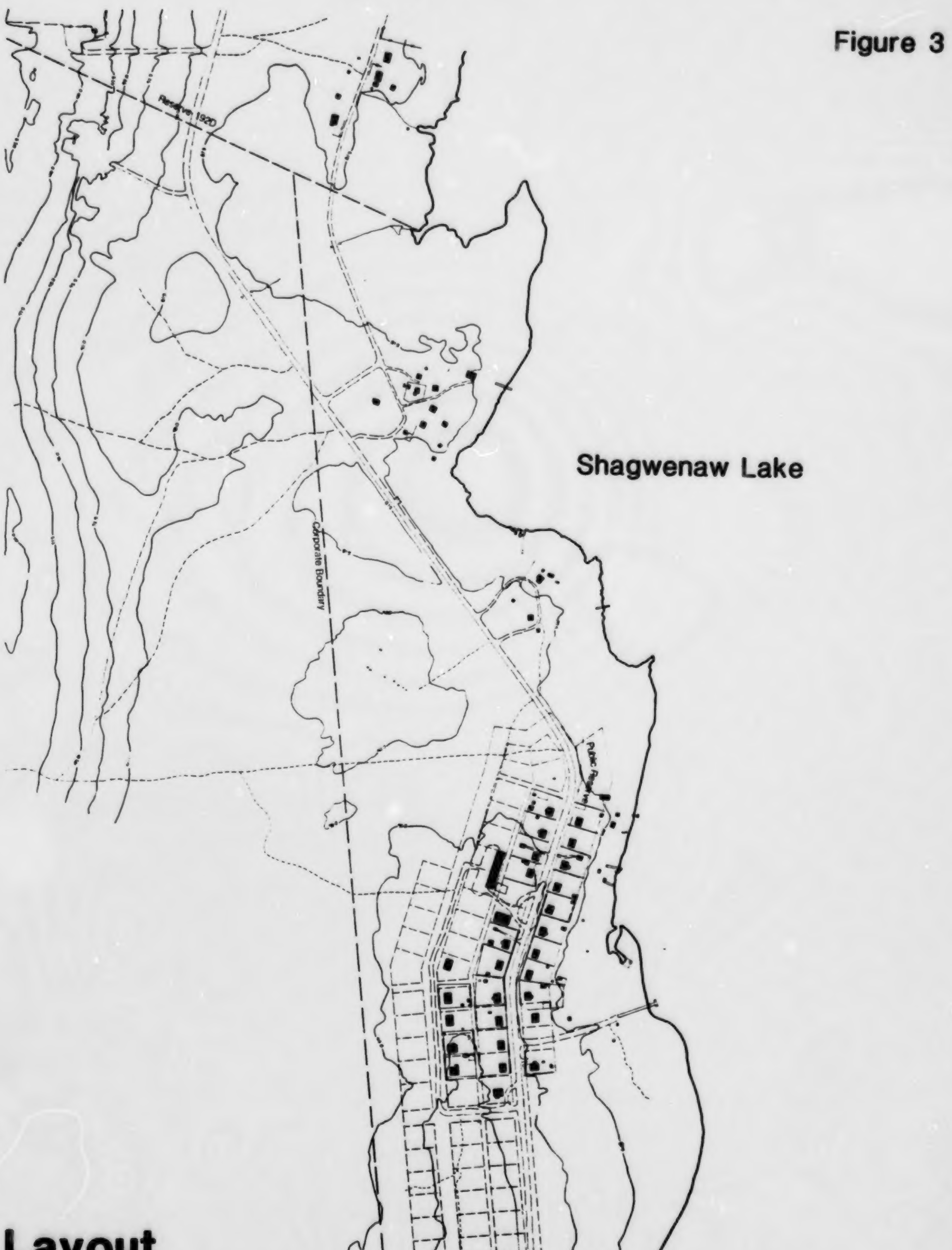
Permanent settlement at Wapachewunak was prompted by the fur trade industry and the church. In the early 1900's the Hudson Bay Company set up a store at Wapachewunak. It became the fur buying centre for the West Side along with Ile a la Crosse. The Catholic Mission established here after 1916 when the now legendary Father Louis Moraud began visits to the people of the English River Band. Wapachewunak's permanent population remained small until 1968 when the St. Louis School was established here. Prior to 1968 the children were sent to the Indian Affairs residential school at Beauval or the mission school at Ile a la Crosse, while their families went north to trap.

When the school was built, many people decided to stay within the community year round so their children could attend school. Permanent houses were built and the community grew.

However, housing was provided by Indian Affairs only for the status portion of the community. Non-status people settled just to the south of Wapachewunak, originally on Little La Ronge Point. Later, lot division and housing programs led to further growth. Two distinct but related communities evolved.

The official formation of Patuanak as a Local Advisory Committee (L.A.C.) occurred in 1972. With the passage of the Northern Municipal Act in 1983, Patuanak became a northern hamlet. In 1984 a municipal boundary was agreed upon and formally established by an Order-in-Council.

Figure 3


Reserve 1920
Shagwenaw Lake
Corporate Boundary
Public Reserve

# Layout

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

Most of the facilities for the community are located on or adjacent to the Reserve. These facilities include the school, indoor rink, recreation facilities, church and Hudson's Bay Store.

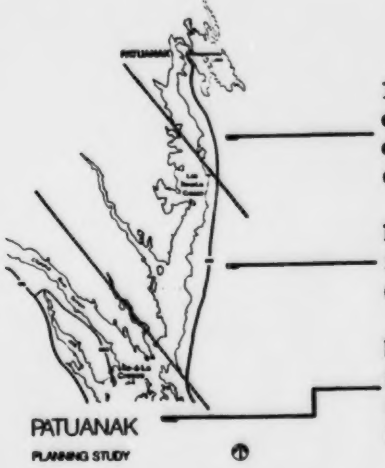
Development of the road to Wapachewunak and Patuanak in 1978 has radically changed the lifestyle of the people. Transportation and communication with the outside world are easier. There are more automobiles. Isolation has decreased.

A key issue which could affect the community is whether people will be able to regain their status, as a result of recent changes in Canada's constitution. Only time will tell how this will change Patuanak.

## 3.0 PATUANAK - THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The physical environment affects the lands suitability for development and ultimately the lifestyle of the people.

### 3.1 Bedrock Geology



Intrusive Rocks- Archaean/Proterozoic. Mainly acid rocks, granite, quartz. Granitized sedimentary volcanic rocks. (lesser Precambrian).

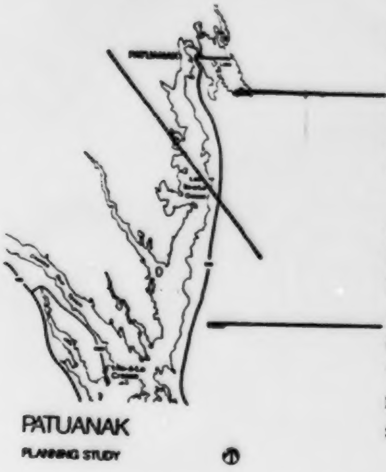
Paleozolic-Devonian. Sedimentary rocks; shale, limestone, dolomite, eraporite.

Mesozoic-Createaceous. Mainly sedimentary rocks; sandstone, shale, conglomerate, marine and non-marine, coal and bentonite.

Patuanak is 305-610 m (1000-2000 feet) above sea level. It is underlain by flat-lying sandstone.

Glacial lineation is southeast (fluting and ridges). This area was formerly a glacial lake, bedrock outcrops are numerous.

## 3.2 Physiography



Rock Knob Complex - rock knob and basin terrain. Rough rock land with bedrock exposures (the Canadian Shield). Rock basins and old drainage channels, wetlands, muskeg, bog or marsh.

Saskatchewan Plains Region (Lac la Plonge Lowland and Ile a La Crosse Lowland) 1000-2000 feet above sea level extensive areas of lacustrine deposits and water worked till, till plains and moraines. Hummocky moraines, (kettles) circular depressions, many temporary sloughs.

Glacial deposition also occurred, there are many types of deposits including eskers, kames, glaciolacustrine deposits, and ground moraine (mainly sandy and of shallow depth).

## 3.3 Climate (sub-Arctic)

**Frost Free** - 111 days (shortest 87)(longest 160)

**Last Spring Frost** - May 31(earliest May 1)(latest June 18)

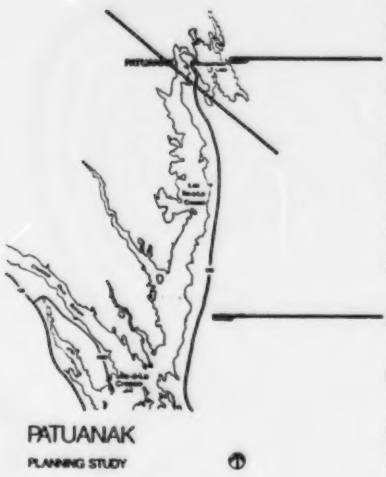
**First Fall Frost** - Sept 20 (earliest Sept 1)(latest Oct 9)

The area is among the lowest to receive bright sunshine hours (annually 2073.0 hours).

| MONTH | TEMPERATURES | | PRECIPATION | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | MAXIMUM (Co) | MEAN (Co) | RAINFALL (cm) | SNOWFALL (cm) | TOTAL (cm) |
| January | -15.8 | -21.4 | 0.5 | 21.5 | 25.3 |
| February | - 9.8 | -16.8 | 0.1 | 26.5 | 20.8 |
| March | - 2.7 | - 9.7 | 0.2 | 27.8 | 23.9 |
| April | 7.5 | 1.7 | 5.2 | 16.1 | 21.1 |
| May | 15.1 | 8.6 | 24.7 | 8.9 | 26.8 |
| June | 19.9 | 14.2 | 59.7 | 0.2 | 59.7 |
| July | 22.4 | 16.7 | 74.8 | 0.0 | 74.8 |
| August | 20.6 | 15.1 | 69.4 | 0.0 | 69.4 |
| September | 13.9 | 9.2 | 49.9 | 4.9 | 55.1 |
| October | 7.8 | 3.4 | 14.9 | 11.7 | 27.7 |
| November | - 4.1 | - 8.3 | 1.1 | 34.7 | 36.6 |
| December | -12.2 | -17.1 | 0.4 | 23.8 | 21.0 |
| Annually | 5.2 | - 0.4 | 300.9 | 176.1 | 462.2 |

This means that the growing season is very limited and that frost may occur throughout the year. Permafrost may underline some areas.

## 3.4 Soils

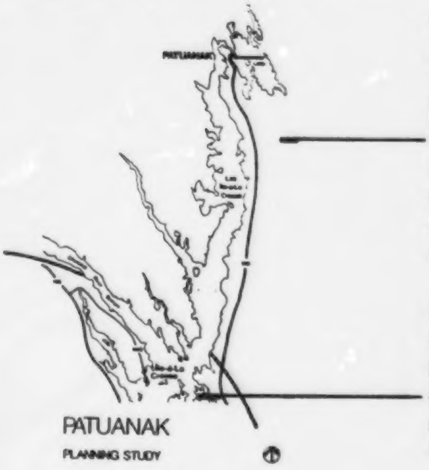


Podzol-(mixed sandy and loamy) Rough rock exposures. These are well to imperfectly drained soils developed under forest. They have light coloured horizons just beneath the surface and finer textured subsoils containing accumulations of clay, organic matter and various oxides or iron and aluminum.

Podzol-Gray-Wooded(mixed sandy and loamy) Rough rock exposed soils with organic surface horizons, light coloured elluvial horizons with illuvial horizons in which clay is the main accumulation product.

Patuanak's soil is sedge-peat which is slightly alkaline. The soil is free from lime-carbonates or salts and appears from their smell, to be very high in sulfur. The soil is low in humus/organic matter. This causes a number of problems for gardeners.

## 3.5 Natural Vegetation - Northern Coniferous



Pine-Spruce-Aspen-Poplar- favorable environment for shrubs such as junipers, cherries and alder. Some broad-leaved trees such as birch, aspen with dense undergrowth of shrubs, herbs and grasses. On outcrops jack pine accompanies spruce and dominates recent burn areas.

Swamp-Bog (muskeg, sphagnum) - sphagnum peat bogs and muskeg mantle the depressions between rock outcrops. Dominated by mixed pine-spruce or by black spruce muskeg together with green alder, feather-moss ground cover and lichen.

Some protected depressions may contain a number of rare herbs not found elsewhere is Saskatchewan.

## 3.6 Wildlife

Commercial Fish: whitefish, pickerel, lake trout, walleye, northern pike (jackfish), lake herring.

Commercial Fur-bearers: lynx, mink, badger, skunk, gray wolf, coyote, raccoon, muskrat, squirrels, otters, beavers, snowshoe hares.

Hunting: mule and white-tailed deer, elk, caribou, moose.

Birds: prey hawks, owls, bald eagle, peregrine falcon.

- Games - mallard, pintail, scoter, teal, widgeon, gadwall, coot, shoveler, canvas back, redhead, coot, bufflehead... common snipe, ruffled grouse, willow ptarmigan.

This area (in conjunction with Kazen Lake) is a breeding area for a number of bird species including the Canada goose, junco, warbler, waterthrush, sandhill crane, white pelican.

## 3.7 Topography

Patuanak is situated on a low ridge which runs north to south, parallel to Shagwenaw Lake. The ridge is about 5 metres (16 feet) above lake level. To the west, the land slopes down to a large muskeg. There is also low land to the north of the builtup area, although this has some 'islands' of higher land within it. There is a higher ridge to the west beyond the muskeg on which the air strip has been constructed.

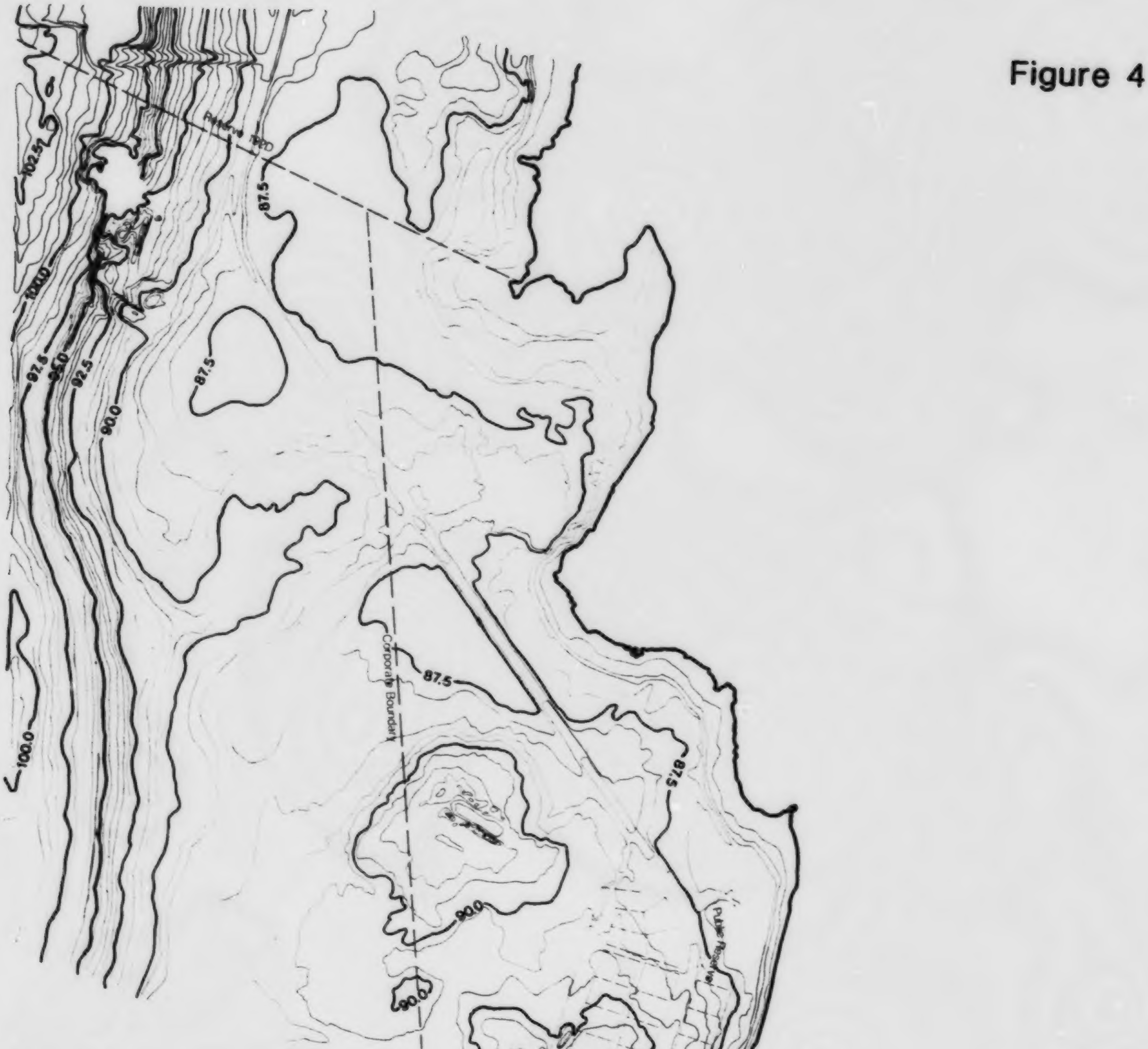
A contour map of the immediate vicinity of Patuanak is shown on Plate 6.

### 3.8 Suitability of Land for Development

A study of the development suitability of the land in and around Patuanak was completed in 1983. Entitled Patuanak Terrain Analysis Study, by J. D. Mollard and Associates of Regina, it identified a number of areas suitable for development (see Plate ). The areas were selected on the basis of a number of factors, including depth of water table, surface drainage, amount of boulders, depth to bedrock, topography, presence of muskeg and a number of other factors. While some areas are rather remote from the community, there are three areas in close proximity which could satisfy the community's needs for some time.

Area 3 is just to the north of the existing housing areas and west of the main road. Hence it has good access to facilities, roads and water. It has bouldery sandy soils. This area comprises about 4 hectares (10 acres) of developable land and therefore is somewhat restricted in size.

Figure 4


102.5
Reserve Road
87.5
100.0
97.5
95.0
92.5
90.0
87.5
Corporate Boundary
87.5
100.0
87.5
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Public Reserve
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92.5
87.5
90.0
0
50
100
150
200
250

Note: 1 Interval-.5m.

**Topography**
**PATUANAK**
northern hamlet
**PLANNING STUDY**

Area 4 lies to the south of the existing developed area and includes some of the surveyed lots.

The road runs through the middle of this area.The land has good water access, is well treed and would be suitable for foundations. There are a lot of boulders. This would be a logical area for expansion. About 20 hectares (50 acres) is suitable for development. A large peat bog limits expansion to the west.

Area 5 is further south, also astride the main road. Part of this area is included within the corporate boundary. It comprises about 40 hectares (about 100 acres). The land is dry and well drained and would allow good foundations to be built. The site has good access to the existing road and water. The site borders on a sandy beach, the best beach in the area. The area is bordered by large peat bogs.

## SUITABILITY OF LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT

MG - Bouldery to sandy till. Former glacial lake, wave action evident in till. Topography undulating and rolling. Soils are well drained. Aspen and jack pine tree cover (formerly burnt).

OS - Treed muskeg. Swamp and wet soils, muck and peat. Gently sloping -> level -> depressional. Poor drainage, high water table. Black spruce.

OB - Open muskeg. Bog peatland (some marsh/fen). Peat is deep - may contain permafrost. Flat -> depressional. Black spruce, tamarack, shrubs, sedges and spagnum moss.

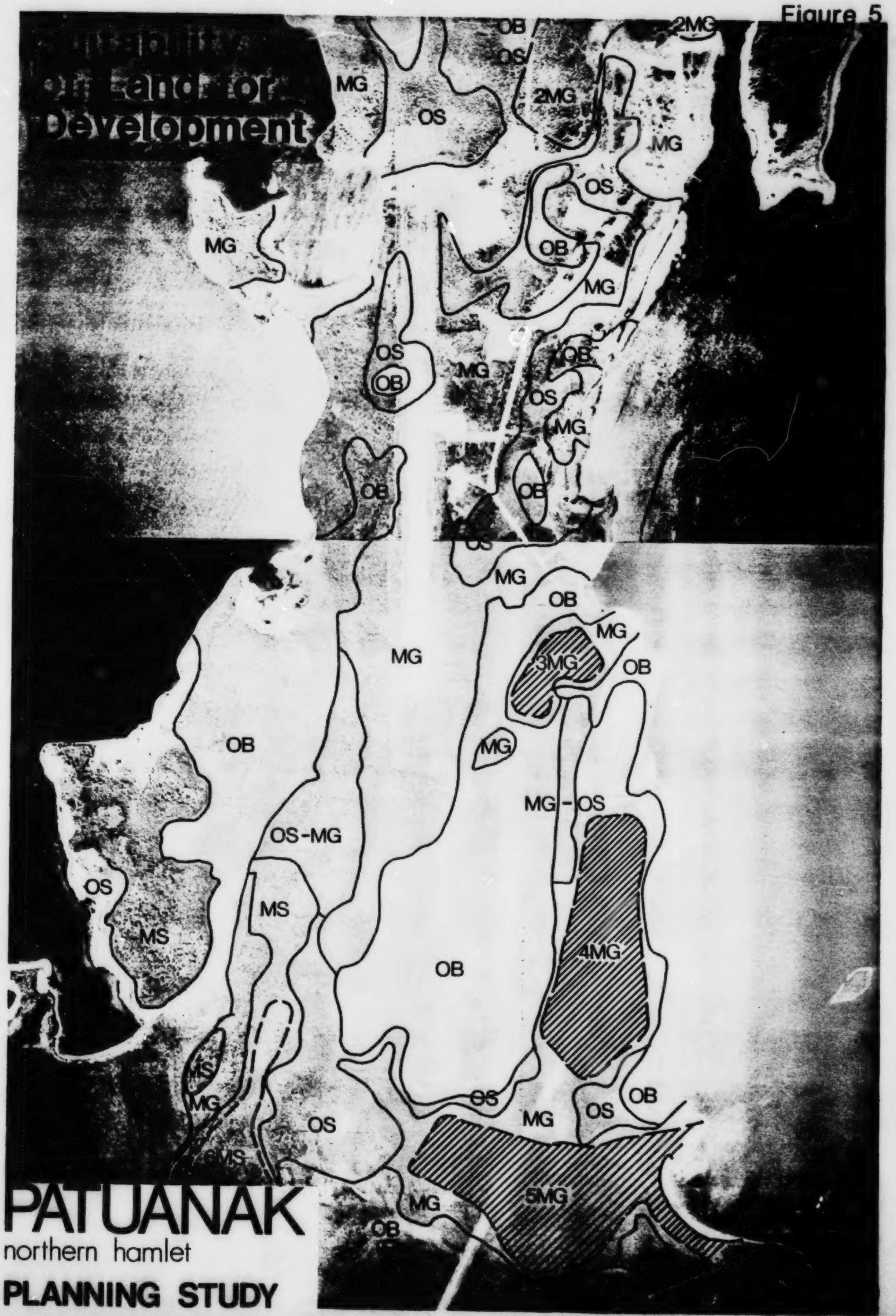
3MG - (4 hectares) Swamp. Bouldery sand soils. Access to water.

4MG - (20 hectares) Good water access. Bordered by a peat bog. Good foundations. Excessively bouldery. Well treed.

5MG - (40 hectares) Dry and well drained. Good foundations. Well treed. Good access - offers best beach in area. Borders large peat bogs.

Figure 5

# Suitability of Land for Development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# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

## 4.0 THE COMMUNITY: PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### 4.1 Community Boundary

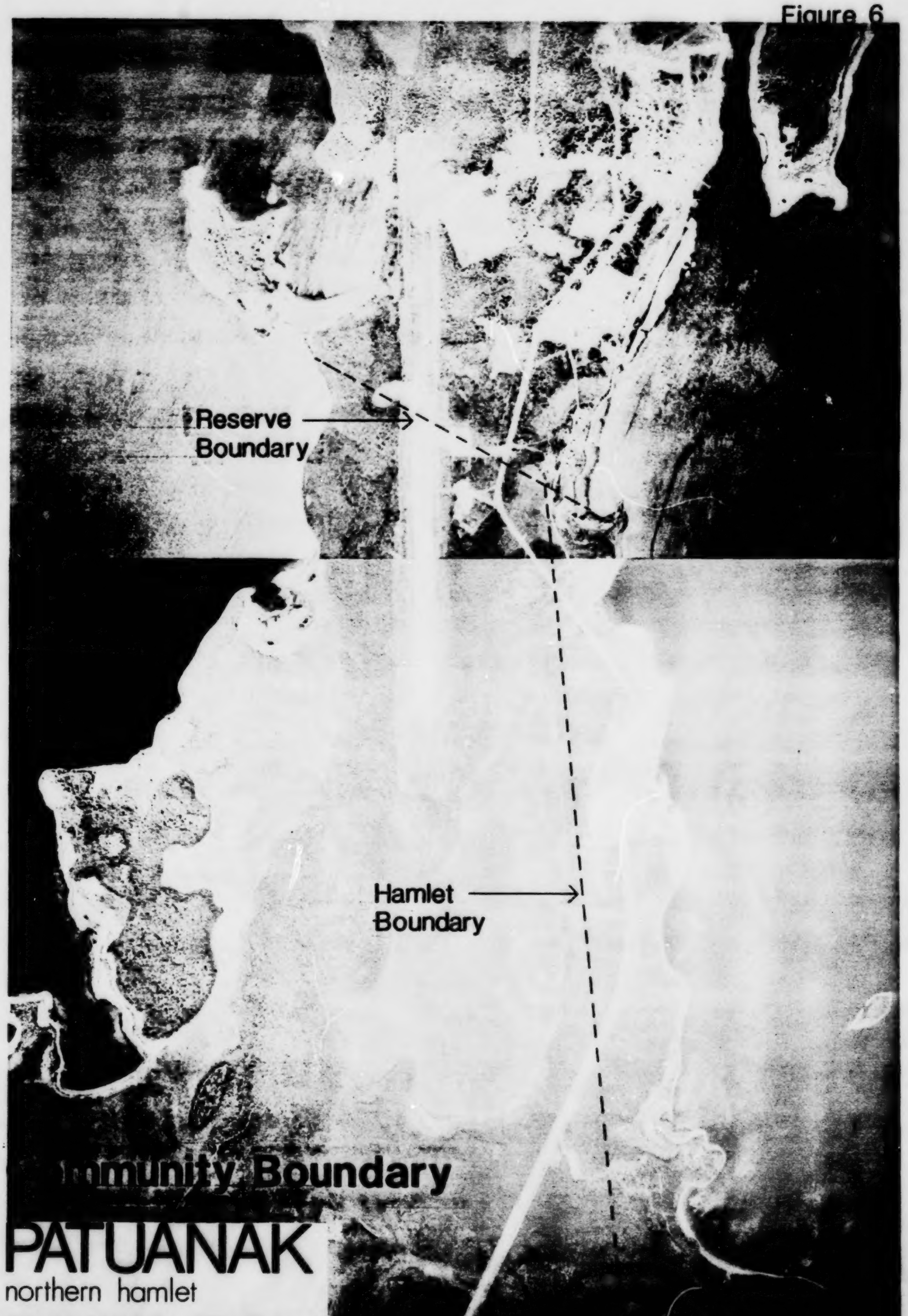
Although Patuanak has had a form of local government since 1972, it was only in 1984 that a formal boundary was established. This boundary was established by the Minister of Urban Affairs, under the Northern Municipal Act, by what is known as an Order-in-Council.

Within its boundaries, the Hamlet of Patuanak has the powers and authorities given it under the Northern Municipal Act. The hamlet comprises a long, narrow strip of land along the shoreline (see Plate ), about two miles long and about one-quarter mile (400 metres) back from the shoreline.

### 4.2 Community Layout

The community layout is very straight-forward (see Plates and ). Most of the houses are on surveyed lots which front the main north-south road, Shagwenaw Drive. The road runs parallel to the lake and about five hundred feet (150 metres) to the west of it. Twenty-six houses, a service station (Lot 10, Block

Figure 6


Reserve Boundary
Hamlet Boundary

**mmunity Boundary**

PATUANAK
northern hamlet
**PLANNING STUDY**

2), and the community office/hall (Lots 5 and 6, Block 1) are located along the main road.

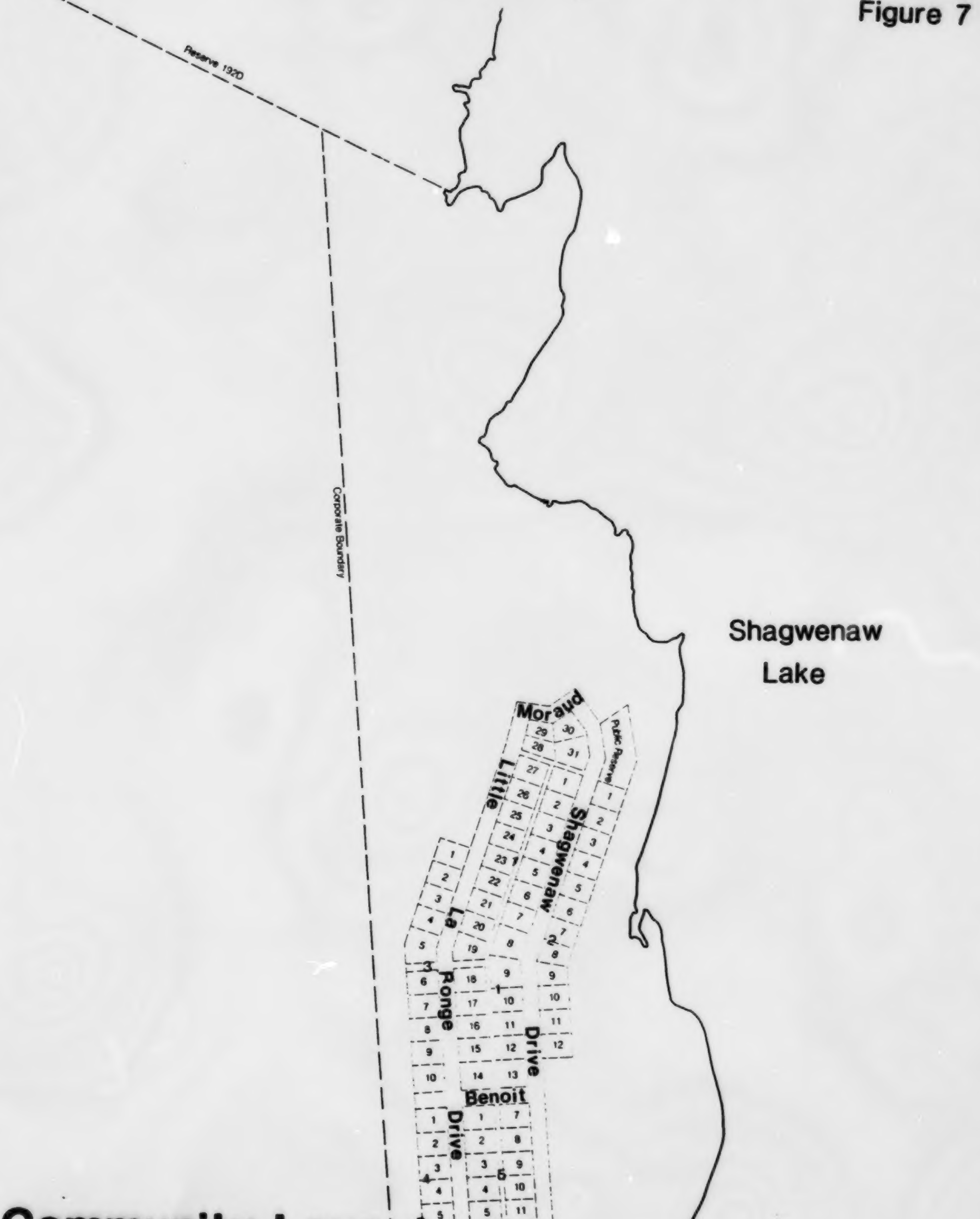
A second street, Little La Ronge Drive, was laid out to the west of the main road and parallel to it. Five houses are located along this street. The community curling rink as well is located here (Lots 23 and 24, Block 1).

Two clusters of houses are located on unsurveyed land along the shore of Shagwenaw Lake to the north (towards the Reserve) These clusters represent the original settlement, Little La Ronge.

The first survey in the area dates back to 1920, when some large parcels were surveyed for the Hudson's Bay Company and the Roman Catholic Mission. The Reserve survey was undertaken in 1923.

In 1972 one of the parcels mentioned above was resubdivided into large sized residential lots to accommodate non-status Indians who moved off the Reserve. Additional lots have since been provided. Most of the lots have a frontage of 30.48 metres (100 feet) and are 38 to 40 metres (125 to 130 feet) deep. This provides about 1350 square metres (one-third of an acre) for each house.

Figure 7


Reserve 1920
Corporate Boundary
Shagwenaw Lake
Moraud
Public Reserve
Little La Ronge
Shagwenaw
Drive
Benoit
Drive
0 50 100 150 200 250

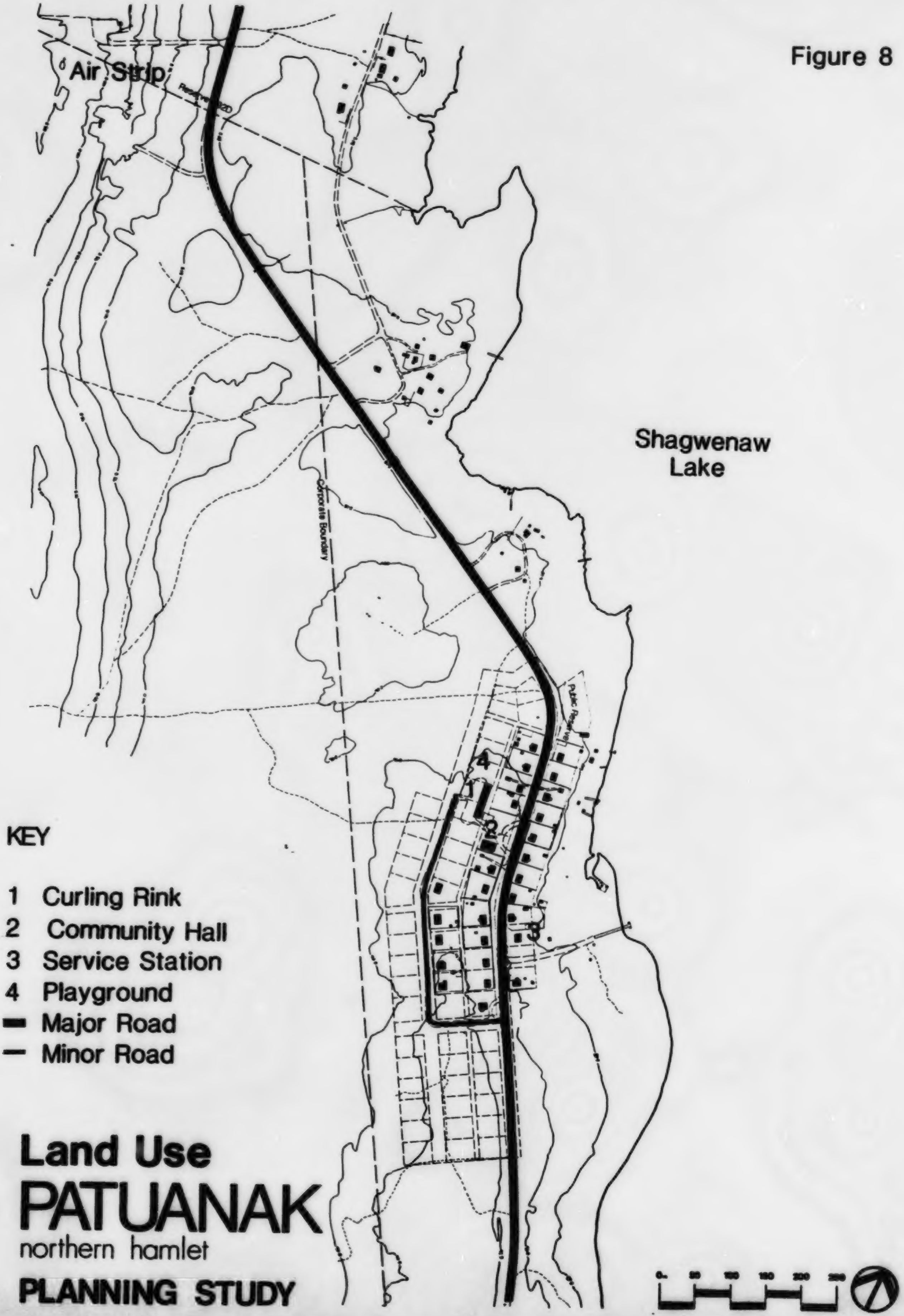
**Community Layout**

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

Figure 8


Air Strip
Shagwenaw Lake
Corporate Boundary
Public Reserve
1
2
3
4
KEY
1 Curling Rink
2 Community Hall
3 Service Station
4 Playground
▬ Major Road
— Minor Road
0 50 100 150 200 250

**Land Use**
**PATUANAK**
northern hamlet
**PLANNING STUDY**

The legal survey determines where houses are located and what the spacing between them will be. Although there has been no zoning to determine where houses will be set within a lot, all houses within the survey are set back the same distance from the road and are about 30 metres (one hundred feet) apart from each other. Consequently, the community presents a very orderly, almost regimented appearance from the road.

Certainly, the lot and street layout shows a total lack of imagination, to say nothing of respect for the slope of the land. For example, most of the lots to the west of Little La Ronge Drive are in muskeg which is too low to be developed or serviced.

There are currently seventy-one surveyed lots in Patuanak as well as one Public Reserve area. Thirty-one lots have been developed, while forty are still vacant.

Of the vacant lots, at least sixteen are undevelopable because they are muskeg. These are the sixteen lots west of Little La Ronge Drive. This leaves twenty-four vacant for future development. The Hamlet has considered some of these to be designated for special purposes. Lots 25 to 31, Block 1 along with the Public Reserve are considered for future playground development. A pool hall exists on the Public Reserve now. Lots 1 and 7, Block 5, have been selected for a future fire hall. However, with the agreement with the Band for construction of a Fire Hall on Reserve, these may now be available for other uses. This leaves eighteen lots for housing in the future.

It is worth considering a change to the basic pattern or layout of lots so that in the future all houses do not have to front onto the main road. A bypass road was considered but rendered as not justifiable. To the south of Benoit Avenue, the possibility exists of creating small loop streets on which houses could be located for greater privacy and safety and to get away from the dust of the road. This could be done on either side of the road. This new layout would require resurveying the existing subdivision, a process which would have some costs attached to it (see Plates - Housing Options, Appendix).

The surrounding land is forested. The new community boundaries which were finalized in 1984 include an area of fine beach to the east of the main road south of Town. This beach area has fine stands of trees. It has a lot of development potential for some special use, such as resort, campground, special facilities. Because it is so attractive, the way in which it is developed would be very important. The only other development within this community is the site of a former saw mill to the north of the housing area. This was established about ten to twelve years ago, but never seems to have been a success.

## 4.3 Roads and Transportation

The road from Beauval was completed in 1978, although it was used prior to being completed. The cut line was made in 1973. It has allowed for building supplies to be brought in so that ten houses could be built that summer (1978).

The Department of Highways is responsible for the maintenance of the road. Grading is infrequent and should be improved. Calcium chloride is used for dust control. A bypass road to alleviate dust and heavy traffic in the developed area could only be developed in the muskeg to the west. The cost would be considerable.

The Hamlet's secondary roads need a lot more maintenance which could be done by the Department of Highways if the cost were reasonable. The Hamlet has no maintenance equipment of its own as it is not justified by the short length of streets under its jurisdiction..

Snowmobiles are an important and popular form of winter transport. They use the roads and also a separate trail network. There don't appear to be any conflicts between snowmobiles and on-road vehicles. In winter, as well, a winter road extends across the lake to Ile a la Crosse.

The air strip is owned and operated by the Department of Highways. It is located partly on the Reserve, and partly within the Hamlet. It is a 823 metre (2,700 foot, approximately 1/2 mile) unlit gravel strip, suitable only for small air craft. It is used regularly by the commuter service to Cluff Lake and to Key Lake (float planes are also used on the lake).

Water transportation is still important for getting to areas inaccessible by road as well as for recreation and fishing. Most skiffs and boats are built within the community. The shoreline, with skiffs

Skiffs

pulled up on the shore, is an interesting and colourful sight.

New docks were built in 1984 under an employment program. All docks appear to be community docks, although access to them is easiest from private property. The most accessible dock is the one to the east of Black's Service Station. This one was in need of repair, but appears to have been fixed.

## 4.4 Housing

### .1 Housing Programs

The provision of housing is one of the primary concerns of any community. Traditionally, the people of Patuanak looked after their own shelter needs. Houses were constructed out of locally available materials - logs or lumber - by the people who were going to live in them. While the houses may not have been luxurious by urban standards, they were usually the product of local materials, design, and craftsmanship.

The introduction of government housing programs has been a mixed blessing. Control over one's own housing has been transferred from the occupant to a government agency. Costs of housing construction have soared, and the houses have been of a standardized design which may not be appropriate to the lifestyle, culture or climate of Patuanak. Nevertheless, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation 'Section 40' housing program did result in much of the community being housed within a short period of time. The program was administered by the Department of Northern Saskatchewan's Northern Housing Group until 1982, when the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation took it over.

Today, almost all houses in Patuanak are of the 'Section 40' type. The program was set up to assist residents to acquire their own homes over time - essentially an assisted mortgage program. The houses on the two points of land along the lake are owner-built. They are located on leased land.

While the program was worthwhile in intent, it did not provide the complete housing package. Basic services, such as water supply and liquid waste disposal, were not provided for either on a centralized or individual basis.

Typical Section 40 Houses

The government housing program does not appear to be tailored to truly consider the housing needs of the people of Patuanak. Housing construction has been effectively stopped for the past few years because of the lack of a centralized water and sewer system. Yet there seems to be no immediate prospect of a sewer and water system being constructed. Certainly this would require senior government funding.

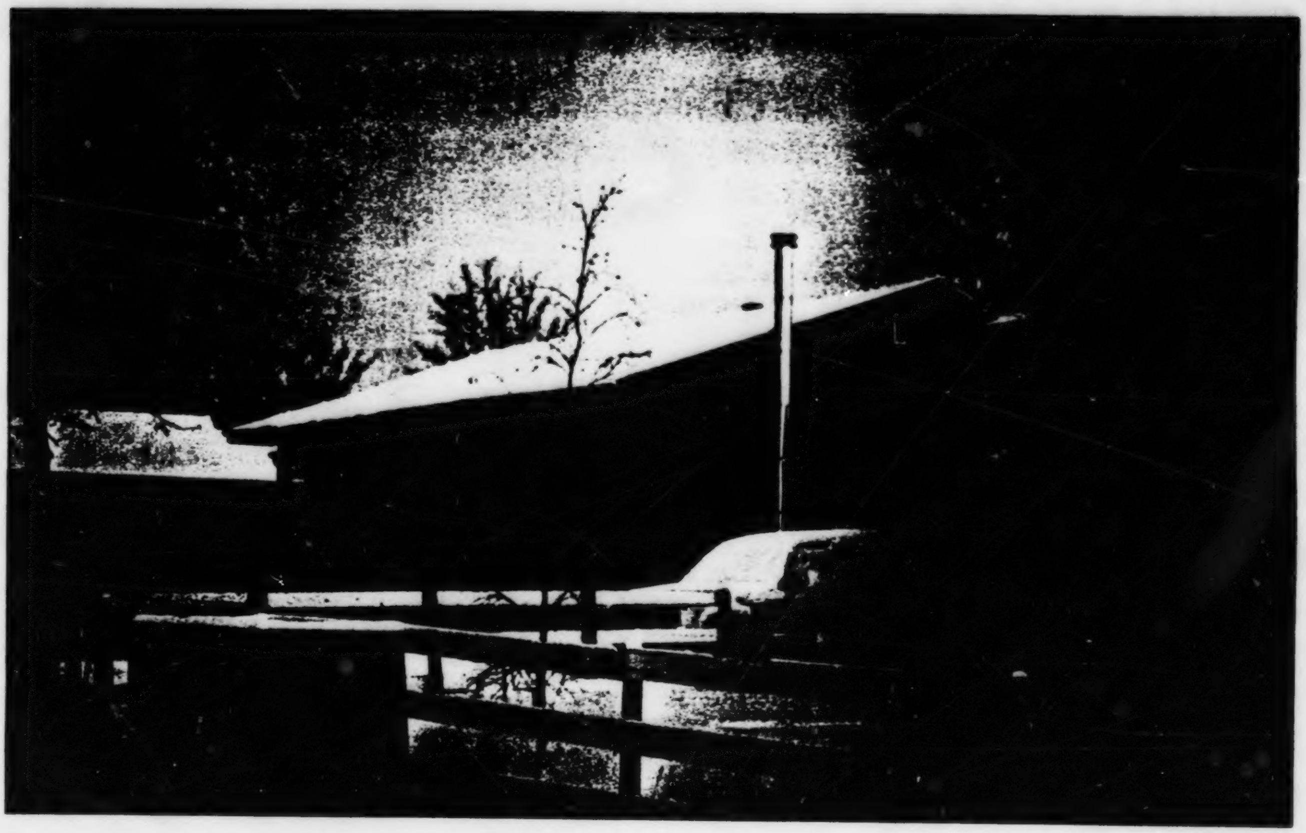
The emphasis appears to be on family housing. This is fine, but ignores the needs of single people, child-free couples, or the elderly.

Many people have the financial capability to make the mortgage payments. However, under the Section 40 program, the payments are pro-rated to income. Therefore, the more you make, the more you pay. This can act as a disincentive to achieve higher incomes. People wanting to get mortgage money from the banks would find that the banks are unwilling to provide mortgage money in the north.

The options for the community to meet their housing needs, therefore, are threefold. One, the community can join with other communities to encourage Saskatchewan Housing Corporation to make its housing policies more flexible. Some ideas are to provide specialized rental housing such as apartments or townhouses for singles, couples and/or seniors.

A second approach would be for Saskatchewan Housing Corporation to adopt a policy, as Alberta Housing Corporation has done, make an up-front cash donation for people to purchase the materials to construct their own housing.

The third option is for people to go back to building their own housing - small but warm log or frame houses with basic services. Several communities have had success in northern Saskatchewan with this approach, utilizing some government labour or capital dollars. Some good housing has been developed at much less cost than the typical Section 40 house in Ile a la Crosse, Pinehouse and Beauval. No doubt, some valuable lessons have been learned there which could be applied to Patuanak.



Examples of Log Houses - Beauval

Whatever the method of providing housing in the future, one thing is certain that Patuanak needs more housing. This need will be presented in the following section.

## .2 Housing Conditions

Currently there are twenty-nine occupied houses in Patuanak. Twenty-five are located along the main road and four in 'Little La Ronge'.

All houses are less than 300 square metres (1,000 square feet) in area. All 'Section 40' houses are one of three standard housing designs.

The average number of people per house is 5.1 (based on a population estimate of 148). This average is much above conventional Canadian standards. A housing survey which was conducted as part of this planning study showed that two houses had nine people living in them, one had eight people, three had seven, four had six, and six had five people living in them.

Obviously more houses or larger houses are needed to relieve overcrowding. The average obscures some real situations of over-crowding.

It appears that at least ten houses would be required to bring the occupancy rates down to conventional Canadian standards. This would allow young people, both singles and couples, as well as older people to move out and establish their own households.

There is considerable interest in different housing forms. Townhouses, apartments, or fourplex units, possibly on a rental basis might be suitable for solving part or all of the housing problem.

There is a lack of a dependable water source. People either get water from the lake or have it trucked from a stand-pipe on the Reserve. This is done on an individual householder basis. The three wells within the community are undependable and do not provide an acceptable quality of water.

Similarly, no houses have interior plumbing tied to a waste disposal system. People rely on the traditional 'outdoor plumbing' systems.

Heating is by wood heater or oil furnace. Oil is trucked in from Beauval and stored in conventional tanks. This method is expensive. Some houses have wood heaters to lower heating costs.

## .3 Summary of Housing Needs

To repeat, the following are the basic housing needs in Patuanak:

1. at least ten additional houses,
2. housing type which is suitable for smaller and larger families,
3. resolution of water supply and waste disposal,
4. housing programs which provide more flexibility and input by individuals.

## .4 Housing Development

As future housing is developed in Patuanak there are a number of guidelines that should be considered.

### Passive Solar Heating

Most housing sites are large enough so that houses can be oriented east-west, with larger windows on the south to take advantage of the warming effect of the winter sun.

## Servicing (Water and Sewer)

The servicing of existing houses has a number of implications. Firstly, if houses do not have rooms available for bathrooms, they should probably not be serviced for either individual or centralized servicing systems. The cost of the addition of a bathroom weighed against the longevity of the house would render it prohibitive. Secondly, for houses with rooms that can be allocated as bathrooms, there are individual household costs that would also render it prohibitive.

For new houses that will be developed costs estimates and specifications for installing a water system and sewage pumpout are as follows:

### Cost Estimate

Water and Sewer Service

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| - Sewage | - 2,000 gallon Tank | $ 1,680.00 |
| | - installation | $ 340.00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| - Water | - 2,000 gallon tank | $ 1,680.00 |
| | - installation | $ 340.00 |
| | - pressure pump | $ 225.00 |
| | - electrical | $ 110.00 |
| | | $ 4,375.00<br>per home |

## Specifications

### Water and Sewer Service

Sewage: 2,000 gallon capacity, 30" manhole, 6" filler pipe with cover, Suitable for four to six foot bury. Sealed and water tight.

Water: 2,000 gallon capacity, 30" manhole, 6" filler pipe with cover. Suitable for four to six foot bury. Sealed and water tight.

Pressure pump shall be a self-priming jet pump capable of supplying a minimum of 750 U.S. gallons per minute at 30 psi discharge pressure. It shall be complete, having a grey iron casing, bronze impeller, mechanical seal, pressure switch set at 20 psi cut in and 40 psi cut out, durable pressure guage and motor thermal evenload protection.

Electrical supply shall be connected to the home panel box.

The pump shall be securely mounted in the bathroom or other such suitable location in the home.

It is recommended that the sewage and water holding tanks be placed at least two feet under the dwelling so as to facilitate direct access to the tanks from the home. This placement of the tanks also assists in preventing freezing of the tank contents in the winter months.

The proposed size of the sewage and water holding tanks were determined on the following basis:

- consumption of 40 gallons per person per day,
- occupancy of five persons per home,
- storage of ten days.

Thus if a 2,000 gallon tank was choosen the number of trips by a pumpout truck would be reduced to once every ten days.

## 4.5 Community Facilities and Services

### .1 Education

Patuanak's children attend the St. Louis School located on the Wapachewunak Reserve, just to the north of the Hamlet. The school is run by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (I.N.A.C.), through a joint agreement with the provincial Northern Lights School Board.

The school provides instruction in Kindergarten to Grade Nine. High school students attend Valleyview School in Beauval. They are transported by school bus on a daily basis.

### .2 Recreation

The community of Patuanak was a major contributor to the construction of the arena which is located on the Reserve. Being located there creates the possibility of future water and sewer hook-up with the system on the Reserve. The arena is a centre for recreational activity and Patuanak has gained an extensive reputation for its strong hockey teams.

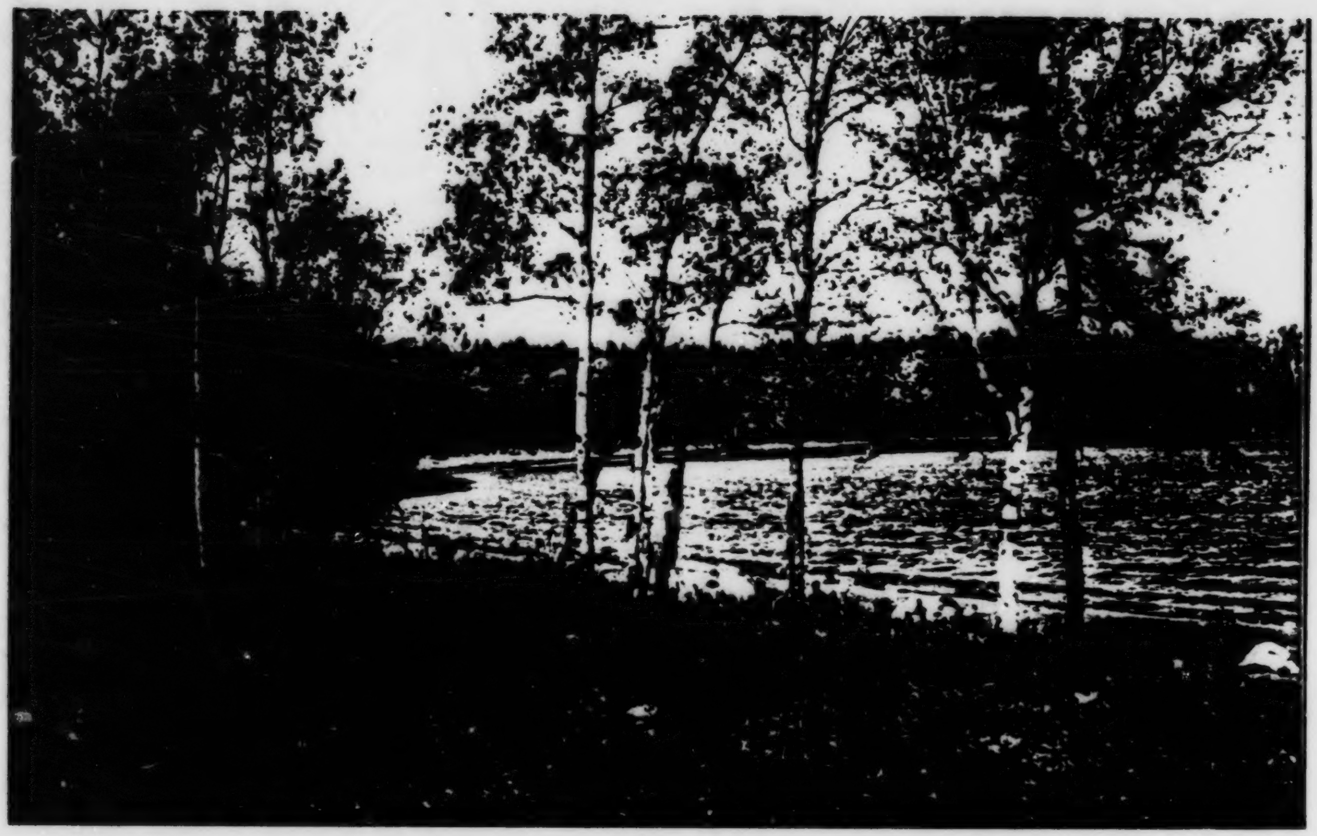
The community hall in Patuanak is used for recreational functions such as bingos.

A small pool room located on the Public Reserve was active for awhile but has closed down. The Hamlet has plans to develop a playground on lots 25,26,27, Block 1 in 1985.

The St. Louis School has two ball diamonds, a football field and a large playground, recently constructed and in good condition.

The Hamlet has constructed a curling rink (2 sheets), located near the community hall.

Other areas that are used casually for recreational purposes are the beach and the former borrow pit (Grand Canyon). Both of these areas provide natural amenities for passive recreational use. The beach area has the potential to be developed to a much greater extent.



Beach

### .3 Community Hall

The community hall is located in the centre of Patuanak and is used for a variety of purposes - administrative, recreational and cultural. It contains the Hamlet office, a kitchen and a large meeting space. It is also used for educational courses (upgrading).

The Hamlet office is rather crowded, with very little space within it for storage, filing or small meetings. Some additional office space would be very useful.

### .4 Health Services

The nearest hospital with resident doctors is in Ile a la Crosse, some eighty miles away by road. The doctor makes occasional visits to Patuanak. Emergencies are dealt with by medi-vac.

The public health program is handled by Health and Welfare Canada through a nursing station housed in the school. Two nurses provide primary health care, well-baby clinics, co-ordination with doctors visits, advice in nutrition, and other public health functions.

Community Hall

Shagwenaw
Service
Black's Service Station

### .5 Fire Protection

There is no fire protection in Patuanak. Basic needs are a fire truck, fire hall, dependable water supply, fire fighting equipment, and a trained volunteer fire fighting force.

### .6 Police Protection

Police protection is provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police through their nearest detachment which is Beauval.

### .7 Water Supply

The community has three pumphouses operating on wells. These are not used for drinking water and are not functioning properly. There has been a problem with the high iron content of water from these wells. A stand-pipe on the Reserve is used for water supply; water is picked up and hauled on an individual householder basis. Most people use water from the lake in winter.

A preliminary water supply and distribution and sewage disposal study was prepared in 1980. It proposed that the well at the south end of the community be used for supply. There would be 50,000 gallons of storage at first, along with treatment for iron and manganese. This could increase to 73,000 gallon with increased demand. Water distribution would be by a recirculating system using a six inch diameter line.

### .8 Waste Disposal - Sewage

All houses have out-houses or privies.

The preliminary engineering study proposed a sewage collection and disposal system consisting of eight inch mains draining north to a pumping station on the Public Reserve, connected to a force main extending back along Shagwenaw Drive to the south with a lagoon located near the beach area.

A number of collection and disposal alternatives were evaluated, with the above system being considered to be the best alternative.

The total capital cost for the proposed system would be in the neighbourhood of two million dollars, with annual operating costs of 60 to 70,000 dollars. Obviously, this could only be constructed through senior government funding.

If the proposal were ever implemented, an alternate location for the lagoon away from the beach area should be explored.

### .9 Solid Waste Disposal

There is community collection every Tuesday and Friday. Dumping is in a disposal area about six miles to the south of the community.

### .10 Power

In 1982, Patuanak was connected by hydro line to the provincial power grid. Before that, power was supplied by diesel generators on the Reserve.

It does not appear that the grid has had a significant effect on individual power bills. However, it has reduced costs for large buildings such as the school. Also, large appliances are now permissible.

## 4.6 Summary of Land Use, Circulation and Servicing Problems

Land Use:

- most houses are on the main road - dust and safety could be a problem,
- the layout of lots and housing was inappropriate for the site and the occupants,
- a number of surveyed lots are too low for economical development or a pleasant environment.

Roads:

- main road runs through the town,
- maintenance of roads is infrequent,
- cost of auto repairs due to road conditions,
- possibility of bypass road.

Housing:

- high levels of occupancy - much higher than southern standards,
- lack of housing options for young adults or older people,
- standardized 'suburban' design,

- lack of basic services such as water supply and sewage disposal,
- high housing costs - mortgage repayments, heat, electricity,
- need for program which would employ local materials, designs, labour,
- some houses in poor repair.

Services:

- almost all of the facilities are on or adjacent to the Reserve,
- complete lack of fire protection facilities,
- Patuanak has a playground works program slated for development in 1985,
- no high school in the community,
- lack of playground facilities in the Hamlet,
- currently, Patuanak functions on a pit/privy system and hauls all of its drinking water,
- uncertainty about long-term funding for centralized sewer and water system,
- need for better water supply (wells and reservoir) and distribution system and sewage disposal system in the interim before a centralized system is installed.

## 5.0 PATUANAK - POPULATION

### 5.1 Importance

An understanding of the population of a community is important for several reasons.

First, changes in population in the past are the key to understanding what the population will be like in the future.

Second, community needs depend to some extent, although not entirely, on the number and age of people in the community.

Third, each age group of a community has its own particular needs. The young need day care, education, playgrounds. Young adults need jobs, housing, and their own kind of recreation facilities. Older people may have different requirements for health care, housing and recreation.

Finally, a look at the past population of a community tells a lot about what has happened in that community.

## 5.2 Past Population Trends

The best year-to-year records for community population are those provided by the Saskatchewan Health Services Plan (SHSP). These numbers are based on the cards which everyone has to obtain health and medical care.

There are some problems with SHSP numbers, as will be discussed later, but they are the most frequently used.

The changes in Patuanak's population over the past fifteen years tells an interesting story. Table 1, on the next page, shows the community's population for the past fifteen years from 1969 to 1984. The count is shown for June 30 of each year.

From 1969 to 1979 the population seems to have grown quite quickly. Most years there was quite an increase in the number of people living there. A few years there was a slight drop.

## TABLE 1 - POPULATION GROWTH

## PATUANAK - LAST FIFTEEN YEARS

| | | Change | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1967 | 121 | | |
| 1970 | 130 | + 12 | + 9.9 |
| 1971 | 143 | + 10 | + 7.5 |
| 1972 | 136 | - 7 | + 5.0 |
| 1973 | 153 | + 17 | + 12.5 |
| 1974 | 163 | + 10 | + 6.1 |
| 1975 | 150 | - 5 | - 3.0 |
| 1976 | 173 | + 15 | + 9.5 |
| 1977 | 189 | + 16 | + 9.2 |
| 1978 | 189 | 0 | 0 |
| 1979 | 196 | + 5 | + 2.6 |
| 1980 | 183 | - 13 | - 7.1 |
| 1981 | 192 | + 9 | + 4.7 |
| 1982 | 180 | - 12 | - 6.7 |
| 1983 | 201 | + 27 | + 10.4 |
| 1984 | 197 | - 2 | - .1 |

**Five Year Averages**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1969 | 121 | | |
| 1974 | 163 | 42 | 34.7 |
| 1979 | 196 | 33 | 20.2 |
| 1984 | 199 | 3 | 1.5 |

Source: Saskatchewan Health Services Plan

From 1969 to 1974 the population grew from 121 to 133 people. This was an increase of 42 people or 34.7 percent. That works out to over six percent per year, which is a very high rate of growth for any community.

It is likely that this was the time when people were still moving in from their traditional homes along the Churchill River system and settling more or less permanently in Patuanak. Also, the birth rate may have been quite a bit higher than it is today. This will be looked at in the next section.

From 1974 to 1979, the population continued to grow, but not as quickly. Patuanak grew from 163 to 196 people, an increase of 33 people or 20.2 percent. That works out to about 3.5 percent per year, which was about typical for northern communities at that time. Most of that growth could have been accounted for by a high birth rate.

It is most interesting that, since 1979, the population has hardly grown at all. It increased by only three, from 196 in 1979 to 199 in 1984. At the same time, the population went up and down a lot from year to year, but only changed by three over the five year period. If Patuanak had grown at the previous rate, the population would now be around 235.

The year 1979 is significant. It was the year after the road came in. It was also about the time that construction started on the northern uranium mines.

The numbers seem to confirm what has been observed by many people. A number of families and young adults have left Patuanak for job opportunities, housing and the 'bright lights' of the cities in the south in the past few years. They can live in Prince Albert or Saskatoon and work in the northern uranium mines as easily as if they lived in Patuanak. Besides, as an earlier section showed, there is and has been a housing shortage in Patuanak.

What of the future? Will young people continue to 'go down the road' looking for jobs and a cheaper, more exciting place to live? Should the community make a strong effort to provide the housing, recreational activities and jobs which will keep young people in their home community? These are very important questions for the people of the community to deal with.

## 5.3 Age Groups

Like many other northern Saskatchewan communities, Patuanak has a young population. This reflects large families with many children per family.

However, during the past ten years, there are fewer children, more young adults, and more older adults. The average age of the population is getting older as fewer children are being born.

These observations are illustrated in Table 2. These figures show that the number of children in 1984 is less than in 1974, while the number of young adults, aged fifteen to forty-four, has increased from seventy to ninety-five. Also, the number of older adults has increased from fifteen to twenty-five.

With more adults and fewer children, it is likely that there will be more families, but that they will be smaller families. Also, older people may wish to remain in their own homes. Therefore, as the population ages, it is likely that more housing will be needed, even if the population remains the same.

Also, older people are less likely and less willing to move away. Therefore increasing attention will have to be given to the needs of the older part of the population in the future. This is as true of Patuanak as it is of the rest of Saskatchewan and of Canada.

## 5.4 Birth Rates

A third set of figures, Table 3, starts to show one of the reasons why the population is not increasing as much as it used to.

In the five years from 1975 to 1979, there were thirty-four infants born in Patuanak. The average birth rate was 37.6 births per 1,000 people.

From 1980 to 1984, there were only nineteen infants born, even though the population was slightly larger and there were more young adult women. The rate is nineteen per 1,000, almost half of what it had been previously.

## TABLE 2 - AGE DISTRIBUTION - PATUANAK

| | 1974 | | 1979 | | 1984 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of People | % | Number of People | % | Number of People | % |
| 0-14 | 74 | 45.4 | 84 | 42.9 | 73 | 36.7 |
| 15-44 | 70 | 42.9 | 87 | 44.4 | 95 | 47.7 |
| 45-64 | 15 | 9.2 | 20 | 10.2 | 25 | 12.6 |
| 65 + | 4 | 2.5 | 5 | 2.5 | 6 | 3.0 |
| | 163 | 100.0 | 196 | 100.0 | 199 | 100.0 |

Source: Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan

## TABLE 3 - BIRTH RATES

### Last Ten Years

| Year | Number of Births | Total | % of | Total Births/1000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1975 | 5 | 158 | 3.2 | 32 |
| 1976 | 7 | 173 | 4.0 | 40 |
| 1977 | 9 | 189 | 4.8 | 48 |
| 1978 | 6 | 189 | 3.2 | 32 |
| 1979 | 7 | 196 | 3.6 | 36 |
| 1980 | 3 | 183 | 1.6 | 16 |
| 1981 | 4 | 192 | 2.1 | 21 |
| 1982 | 2 | 179 | 1.1 | 11 |
| 1983 | 5 | 201 | 2.5 | 25 |
| 1984 | 5 | 199 | 2.5 | 25 |

Birth Rate: Average, 1974-79: 7 per year or 37.6 per 1000
Average, 1980-84: 3.8 per year or 19.6 per 1000

Note: Number of births is inferred from the 0-1 age population. It is assumed that all of the infants in that category were born in the community, rather than moving in.

Source: Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan

This is a very great decrease. In Canada, generally, it took the birth rate fifteen to twenty years to drop this amount. This drop in the birth rate is probably due to the increasing acceptance of family planning and birth control methods and different attitudes to large families.

## 5.5 Reliability of SHSP Numbers

The planning consultant and town administrator prepared a profile of housing and population as part of the planning study. A population of 148 was counted. Presumably the SHSP numbers include people who are away from the community on a temporary or semi-permanent basis. This points to the difficulty of getting accurate population estimates for northern communities. In fact the idea of a 'permanent population' may not be the same as for southern communities. People may come and go - to the trapline, or to work up north or down south.

## 5.6 The Status/Non-status Issue.

Very recently, federal legislation was passed which allows a treaty Indian woman to retain her status if marrying a non-Indian. Some of the provisions affect previous loss of treaty status. Exactly who will be affected and under what conditions is something to be determined. It appears that the Indian Bands will have some input in this matter.

A number of people in Patuanak could, in fact, regain their treaty Indian status as a result of this legislation. At the time of the Planning Study preparation, it was not known how many people would be affected and how they would be affected. For example, would people who regain their status live on the Reserve?

It is clear that the outcome of this legislation could affect the population of Patuanak quite considerably, but it is too early to determine in what way. Therefore it is important to keep track of the situation on an ongoing basis to determine what the effects will be in the future.

## 5.7 Conclusions

1. The population of Patuanak grew quickly in the past but has been stable during the past five years.

2. Slower population growth is likely caused by a sharp decrease in the birth rate and by young adults moving south.

3. The population is likely to remain stable in the future, and may even decline slightly.

4. The population is getting older and this will lead to more households and continued need for housing.

5. The community may be able to retain and attract some of its young people by making housing, job opportunities and recreational activities more available.

6. There may actually be fewer people in Patuanak at any point in time than the SHSP figures show.

However, the people holding health cards marked Patuanak and living elsewhere, might return home if conditions permitted.

7. The possibility that some currently non-status Indian people in Patuanak could regain their status as a result of recent legislation could have quite an impact on the community. This situation should be monitored on an ongoing basis to determine what effect, if any, this could have on the community's population and housing situation.

## 6.0 ECONOMIC PROFILE

The people in Patuanak make their living in a variety of ways.

The largest regular employers are the uranium mines. Seven people are employed by Amok at Cluff Lake, while three are employed at Key Lake. They work on a seven days in, seven days out system, and commute by the scheduled commuter air craft provided by the mining companies.

Resource harvesting is still a significant economic activity. Patuanak is within Fur Block N-16. At least ten people trap on a seasonal basis for lynx, fox, muskrat, and squirrels. Furs are sold locally through the Bay in Meadow Lake or to one of the four fur buyers in La Ronge.

Between five and ten men are employed at commercial fishing. Fish is brought to the packing plant at Ile a la Crosse or Buffalo Narrows by boat, truck or plane. From there, the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation ships fish to the processing plant at Transcona, Manitoba.

Rice harvesting is an expanding economic activity in northern Saskatchewan. In the past two years, Patuanak Hamlet as well as the Reserve have purchased a harvester from the manufacturer in La Ronge. Seeding has taken place and harvesting has been sufficient to provide the following year's seed.

Game hunting and berry picking are important to provide food. Some small scale gardening has been started in the past. While this may not provide a great deal of income, it does provide a substitute for otherwise expensive fresh food if purchased through one of the local stores.

There is one local business, the service station and associated school bus route.

The Hamlet employs an administrator as well as coordinator of seasonal construction programs. These programs provide seasonal employment in local construction for a varying number of local people.

It is difficult to estimate the total number of full and part time jobs within the community. However, it would appear that about fifteen people have full time jobs while a further fifteen to twenty-five work seasonally as trappers or fishermen.

# 7.0 MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

## 7.1 Powers

As a Northern Hamlet, Patuanak is a municipal corporation. It has a wide variety of powers and responsibilities assigned to it under The Northern Municipalities Act. The Hamlet can pass bylaws to regulate a variety of matters from licensing businesses to traffic control to issuing building permits. A Hamlet can acquire and dispose of land and can borrow money for various purposes.

The power to manage land use can be obtained through a Zoning Bylaw passed under the Planning and Development Act. This would designate land use districts, along with permitted uses and development standards for each district.

## 7.2 Finances

To finance its operations, the Hamlet relies on the Northern Revenue Sharing Program administered by the Department of Urban Affairs. For the past year, a grant of about $54,000 was received by the Hamlet.

This amount is based on a formula combining population, assessment and a northern factor. There is very little income from taxation, as the Hamlet has a very limited tax base.

Funds for capital improvements are available through the Northern Capital Grants Program. Patuanak was eligible for a grant of $51,208 for the five year period 1983 to 1988. Presently only $2,755.00 has been spent. It is important to note that the money is lost if not spent before the program expires in 1988.

The money available in the Northern Capital Grant Program can be combined with funds available under other programs. For example, some communities have erected buildings using the Capital Funds for materials and subtrades and Canada Works for general labour.

Capital assistance for fire protection is available through the Northern Fire Protection Facilities Grant Program of Saskatchewan Urban Affairs. This program provides up to 95 percent of the capital cost for fire halls and up to 90 percent of the capital cost for fire protection equipment.

Patuanak has utilized other funding programs, such as the provincial winter works employment program for operational or capital funds.

# 8.0 FUTURE CHANGE AND GROWTH

## 8.1 Introduction

The future of Patuanak will be affected by a number and variety of factors. Some of them, such as federal government policy or the world price of furs or uranium, are largely beyond the control of the community. In these cases, the best the community can do is to try to predict these external factors and accommodate change.

There are also some factors which the community can and must try and influence. Provincial government policy can be influenced by individual or groups of communities. Often, when several communities speak as one loud voice, it is more effective than the same communities speaking individually.

The community does have control over certain limited financial resources and access to other funding resources. Wise use of limited resources and a determined effort to utilize all available assistance programs will go a long distance toward achieving community goals and objectives.

With these thoughts in mind, what follows is a brief discussion of what is likely to happen in Patuanak, based on the first section. This is followed by a discussion of economic development opportunities. The final section (11.0) is a set of recommended actions to achieve the community's goals and objectives. These goals, generally, are to meet the needs identified in the fourth section of the Planning Study.

## 8.2 Prospects for Change

What does the future have in store for Patuanak?

The earlier discussion on population suggested that the population may not increase. However, it seems likely that the number of households will increase, and therefore the number of houses needed in the future will also increase.

The reason for concluding that the population will not increase significantly is that young people appear to be moving away. However, if more housing, jobs and recreational opportunities were offered, then, possibly, young people might return or stay within the community. Assuming that more young people and a greater population would make Patuanak a more vital place, then a major goal of the community is to provide those services that would encourage this to happen.

Even if the population doesn't increase, there are a number of problems to be met. There is the problem of economic development, housing, fire protection, recreation and a number of services. The following section deals with the matter of economic development.

# 9.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## 9.1 Introduction

Any community planning study must consider additional or alternative forms of future economic development. The current economic base comprises employment by the uranium mines, teaching and government services, limited small business, and the traditional resource pursuits of trapping, fishing and gathering.

A discussion of economic development must consider not only the community itself but also the entire region, the west side, and, in fact, all of northern Saskatchewan.

## 9.2 Economic Development in the North

Northern development has basically been of two types. Resource development, such as uranium mining has been engineered by the 'mainstream' economy to the south, with most benefits appearing to flow south, and only fringe benefits to the north. The uranium mining industry has introduced a number of northerners to steady employment and the cash economy, but has also been the means for them to move south. So it has not been a mixed blessing, although few would argue that, on balance, it has been a detriment to the people.

The other type of economic development has been that created by government programs such as housing, health care, education, major services, social assistance and make-work programs. These services will always be needed, especially with a growing population, regionally. The challenge is to ensure greater participation by northerners in these service jobs. Too many professional and technical jobs - teachers, nurses, administrators, and others, are still being filled by non-northerners, while northerners are unemployed. The key to this kind of economic development is, first, more supportive government policy, and second, education.

There are several options for economic development in the north. It could take the form of:

- concentration on the traditional pursuits, with more active marketing to the south,

- continuation of the present government/private sector activity, with northern communities getting a 'bigger slice of the pie', so that more of the wealth created in the north stays in the north,

- the eventual creation of a regional agency to promote and manage northern economic development, to comprehensively identify opportunities, provide skills and entrepreneur training, capital, marketing assistance and all the other prerequisites of economic development, and,

- some combination of the above.

## 9.3 Specific Economic Possibilities

A number of present and future economic prospects have been identified by community members and through discussions with people involved in the north. These are listed below. Some of these are definite development possibilities while others more closely resemble community needs.

| Economic Sector | Opportunity |
|---|---|
| Mineral Development | Will continue to provide significant employment opportunities. |
| Education | There will continue to be a need for Indian teachers in Indian schools including Patuanak. Education is the key. |
| Government Services | Most health workers, resource officers, police officers, and administrators are non-native southerners. Again, education is the key. There are a few opportunities in Patuanak and many in the region. |
| Wild Rice | A growth industry going through some growing pains. Significant opportunities in the Patuanak area. |
| Small Business | Limited opportunities in transportation, service station, cafe, small engine repair, construction, and laundromat. |
| Tourism | Patuanak's isolation is a disadvantage and an opportunity. It is the 'edge of the wilderness' with opportunities in outfitting and guiding for fishing and wilderness exploration. |
| Agriculture | Limited opportunities for income generation, but significant benefits in self-sufficiency and decreased reliance on expensive, imported foods - small-scale farming, green houses, animals, vegetable crops. |

## 9.4 Discussion of Opportunities/Possibilities

### .1 Construction

In the past, Ile a la Crosse has been particularly successful at developing housing construction and selling certain building components to mining companies and other communities. The Co-operative industry has a core of trained workers and a number of employees. Housing construction has, in fact, fallen off in the past few years in the north. However, Patuanak could form or encourage the formation of a company or work crew to build low-cost housing for the community.

### .2 Small Business

The provision of business facilities and commercial services are largely dependent on the personal initiatives of individuals. The hamlet's role will likely remain passive or supportive (i.e., provide space/land). There is a need for people trained in basic skills - plumbing, carpentry, electrical, mechanical.

Addition of a laundromat on reserve (water and sewer).

### .3 Agriculture

Micro farming operations in poultry and waterfowl have been initiated in the past. These represent possibilities although they are more capital intensive, require more feed grain, and require a fairly high degree of management expertise. To date all attempts to implement these operations have been unsuccessful. Large scale operations are not particularly practical for Patuanak because of climatic and soil limitations and high capital costs.

Some opportunities lie in the areas for individual vegetable crop production. the benefits are small-scale - significant to the individual or family. Soil restrictions in the form of sandiness and stoniness adversely affect the capability. Some advice on northern gardening would be useful. The provincial government as well as at least one religious agency provide extension programs.

## .4 Resource Harvesting

Fishing: At present the maximum allowable catch is being taken from Lac Ile a la Crosse and thus there is little possibility of an increased catch. About 20% of the catch is being done by fishermen from Patuanak. These fishermen also have access to lakes further to the east and north.

The whole matter of marketing the catch is highly centralized and is seen to be detrimental to the industry. There is a very limited local market for fish.

The fish packing plants are located in La Ronge, Buffalo Narrows and Ile a la Crosse. Transportation costs to and from the processing centres are reimbursed by the federal government.

Trapping: Trapping is gradually declining as an occupation and source of revenue. Prices tend to fluctuate considerably and trapping provides a somewhat unreliable source of income. However, the last few years prices have been very favourable. If people are willing to go further afield, there probably is some potential for increased harvest. This remains very much an individual occupation and the intensification of this activity will ultimately depend on the initiative of the individual (Game Management Zone 34).

Hunting: The opportunity to specialize in guiding, catering to elitism, exists.

Forestry: Timber stands in the area are generally poor in quality and it would probably be difficult to establish anything but a small scale marginal operation. Logs for housing could be harvested locally.

### .5 Mineral Development

The mining of uranium ore has generated the most excitement and optimism for the north. While Patuanak is far removed from the actual mine sites, mining has nonetheless generated indirect spin-offs through employment and wages. There are no indications of any exploitable mineral deposits in or near the community and thus the economic potential for Patuanak will continue to be in terms of direct wages and revenue sharing.

Revenue sharing from the mining development would appear to be one of the more attractive possibilities.

## .6 Transportation

At present all shipping and distribution services are being provided by outside firms. It is most likely that this will continue.

Trucking: Supplies are trucked in on Tuesday. Supplies are also available from the daily freight truck in Beauval.

Taxi: Presently, Etienne Black runs the taxi service and school bus service to Beauval daily. The Reserve also has a taxi service. The Reserve and community combined might be able to support a third taxi service.

Service Station/Car Repair: Blacks Service Station does no major repair, therefore, all servicing is obtained in Meadow Lake. A small repair business that carried out routine maintenance might be viable.

## .7 Tourism

No major tourist facilities exist on the West Side north of the Beauval area. The industry is very much in its infancy. As the West Side develops, tourism will grow. Industrial and urban development along the communities of the Saskatchewan/Alberta border (Lloydminster, Cold Lake) will increase the demand for summer tourist opportunities. The completion of the Beauval/Pinehouse road has brought a great many more tourists passing through to the La Ronge/Waskesiu region. While the West Side does not have the trophy fishing and rocky lakes of the Shield area, there are significant scenic, historical and other resources.

Patuanak has a unique physical and historical setting that could be capitalized upon. Patuanak is on the Churchill River system which has both scenic and historical interest. It is a wilderness river well regarded for canoe expeditions, as is well documented in Kamil Pecher's book 'Lonely Voyage'.

There are several opportunities for the community or community members, promoting Patuanak as the jumping off point for wilderness canoe expeditions could attract tourists, and create jobs for enterprising wilderness tour organizers. Not only the Churchill system, but also the traditional routes up the Mudjatik and to Cree Lake could provide challenging expeditions. If organized by Patuanak residents, the fees for guiding and outfitting services could be retained locally. This would require that business and management skills be developed along with the traditional guiding skills.

There also are some opportunities for providing accommodation for the fisherman tourist who wants to discover the 'end of the road'. A basic campsite, possibly near the beach, and a few 'rustic' cabins, combined with the services of guides, could combine to create an interesting package for the adventurous tourist. This could be handled by the Hamlet. However, it might be more suitable for a private entrepreneur, with the Hamlet in a supporting role. The key would be to start small, to minimize the down-side risk, and build and develop from there. However, a campsite by itself is not likely to recover its costs and presents an ongoing management responsibility to be successful. However a small scale cabin business might be more promising.

Another specialized target market, possibly combined with either of the above two is the tourist who is interested in the natural and historical resources of the Churchill River system. The Churchill River is being considered for designation as a Heritage River. This will increase public awareness of its significance and beauty. Also, the area supports a large number and variety of bird species from eagles to songbirds. This could prove to be an attractive feature, which if promoted and managed, could produce both economic and social benefits.

A final related opportunity is that of wilderness expeditions emphasing individual self-sufficiency and living off the land. The cultural heritage and skills of the Dene people would provide the basis for this type of experience. Again, a specialized market exists, especially overseas, for this type of experience. Further work is needed to determine the feasibility of these types of tourist ventures.

The English River Band is currently having a tourism development study prepared. There may be positive results from co-operative effort between both sides of the community. Assistance to the Hamlet or individuals is available through the province's Tourism and Small Business Department and through government funding programs such as NEDP or NEDSA (see Appendix).

### .8 Education

Post graduation and continuing opportunities exist for the people of Patuanak in a number of areas. As stated previously, education is the key to entry into technical and professional opportunities in government and semi-government services, such as administration, education, health care, resource management, housing and many others.

## 10.0 PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations are the basis for an action plan which would help the community to achieve its objectives. It is recommended that the Hamlet of Patuanak do the following.

.1 Provide low-cost housing for community members using logs or similar materials and funding from government employment creation programs.

2. Direct future housing into the lots which are suveyed south of the existing lots

OR

Resurvey the lot lines so that housing clusters are created and houses don't face the main road, recognizing that the cost of replotting could well be as much as $5,000 (see attached sketch).

3. Consider another housing area to the north of existing area, for larger lots which are unlikely to be serviced in the future. The advantage of this site is being closer to the school and store.

4. Designate lots to the west of Little La Ronge Drive as being unsuitable for residential development.

5. Continue to develop the play area to the north of the curling rink.

6. Obtain title to all surveyed lots within the corporate limit of Patuanak through Urban Affairs and the Land Titles office.

7. Continue to lobby the provincial government to assist in providing a cleaner and more reliable water supply system.

8. a) Use the Northern Fire Protection Facilities Grant Program along with operational and other grants to acquire a fire hall, fire truck and fire fighting equipment, in cooperation with the English River Band.

   b) Organize a volunteer fire fighting force and obtain training through the provincial training program.

   c) Support fire prevention programs through the school program.

9. Negotiate with the Department of Highways for assistance with maintenance of local roads.

10. Decide as to how and where to expand and incorporate land into the hamlet boundary.

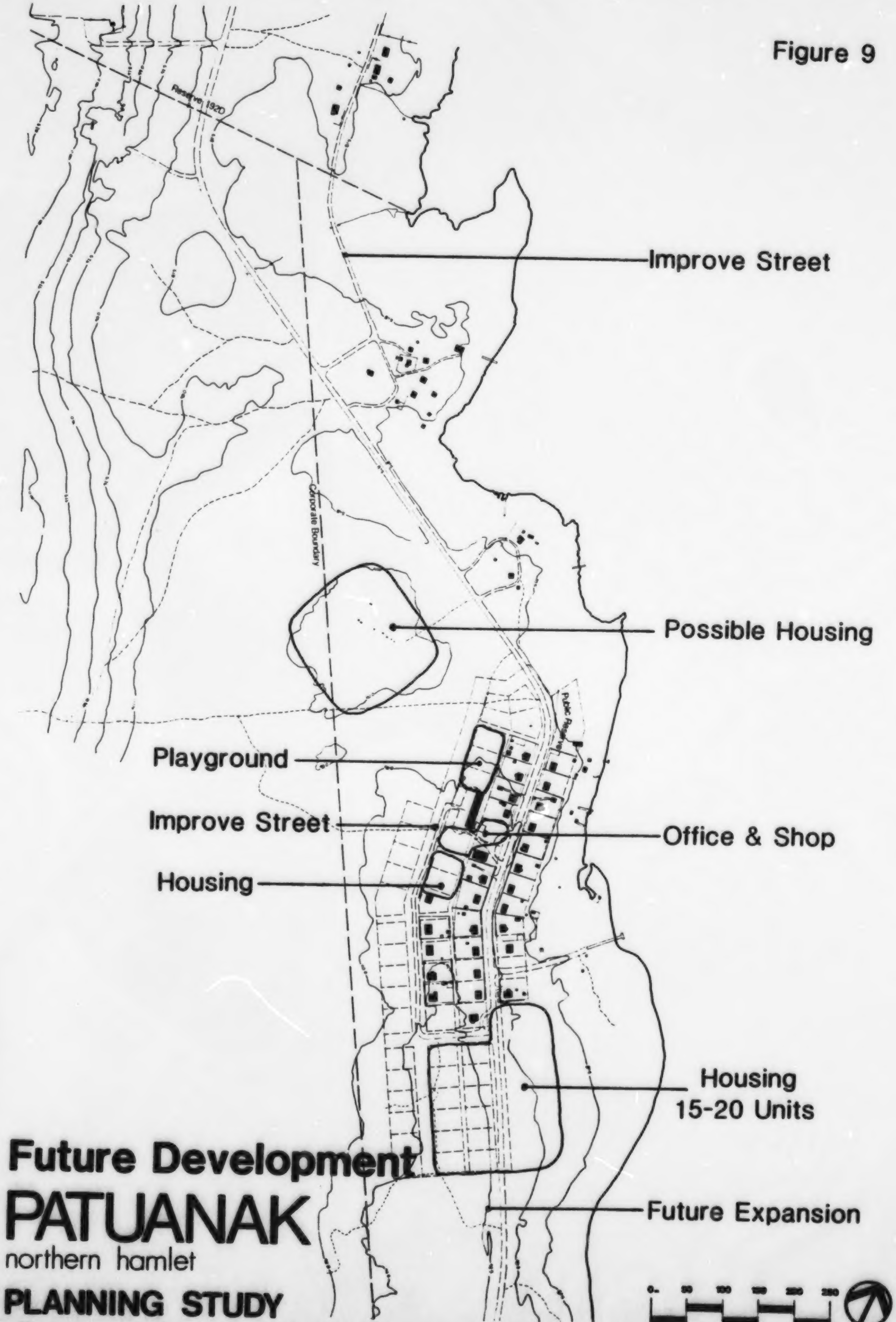
11. Attempt to get some advisory service to assist with small-scale gardening through the provincial government at La Ronge.

12. Provide information on the economic development assistance programs available to northern and native communities, groups and individuals.

13. Recognize that the beach is a valuable resource and has many possible uses - campground, outfitting camp, picnic area, natural area or even an area for unserviced housing. Its careful development is most important.

14. Recognize that the preliminary sewer and water report showed a sewage lagoon location near the beach, and lobby strongly to have this changed if and when the system is designed in detail.

Figure 9


Reserve 1920
Corporate Boundary
Public Reserve
Improve Street
Possible Housing
Playground
Improve Street
Office & Shop
Housing
Housing 15-20 Units
Future Expansion
0 50 100 150 200 250

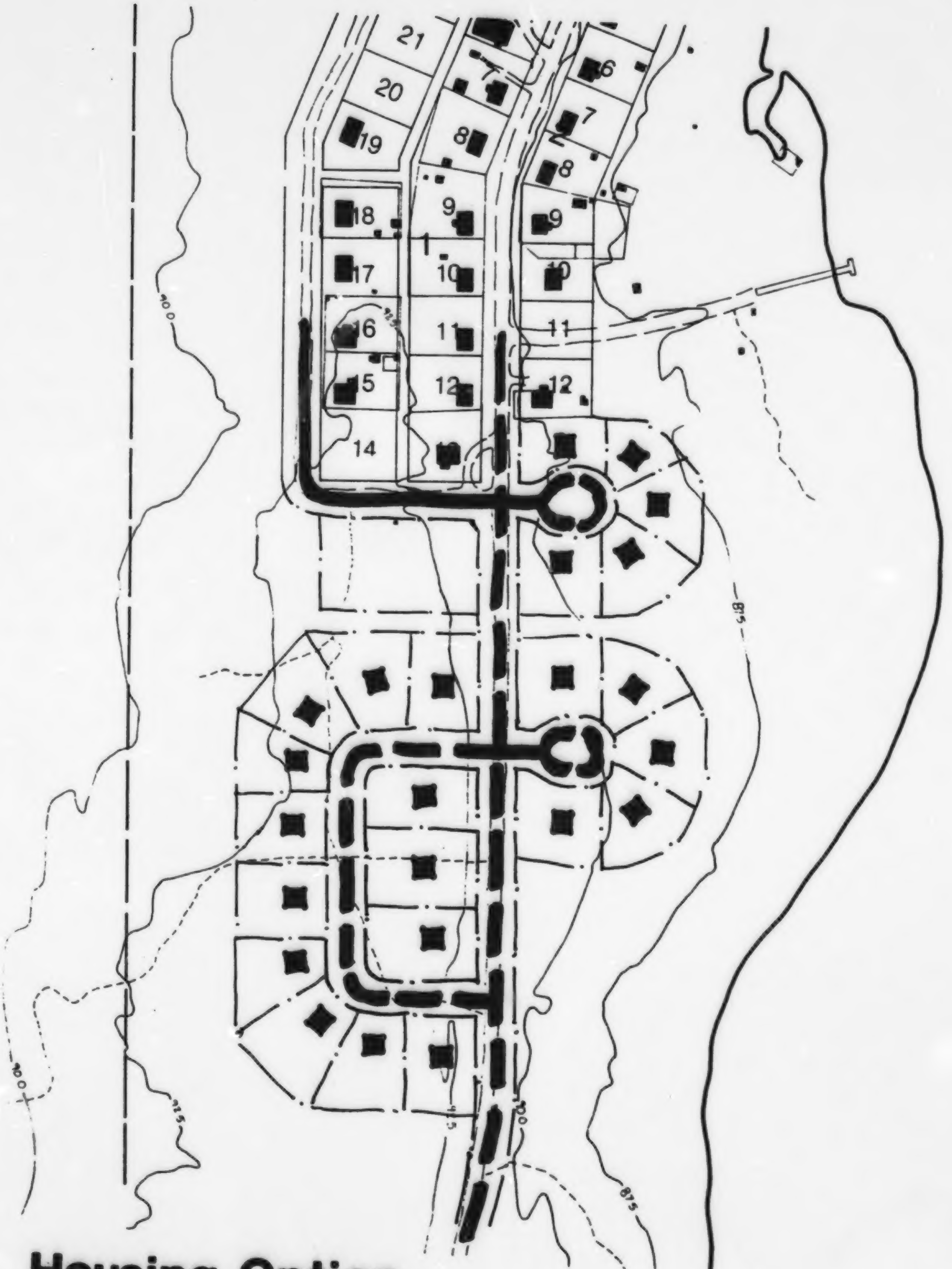
## Future Development

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

## PLANNING STUDY

Figure 10


21
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10
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12
400
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925
900
875

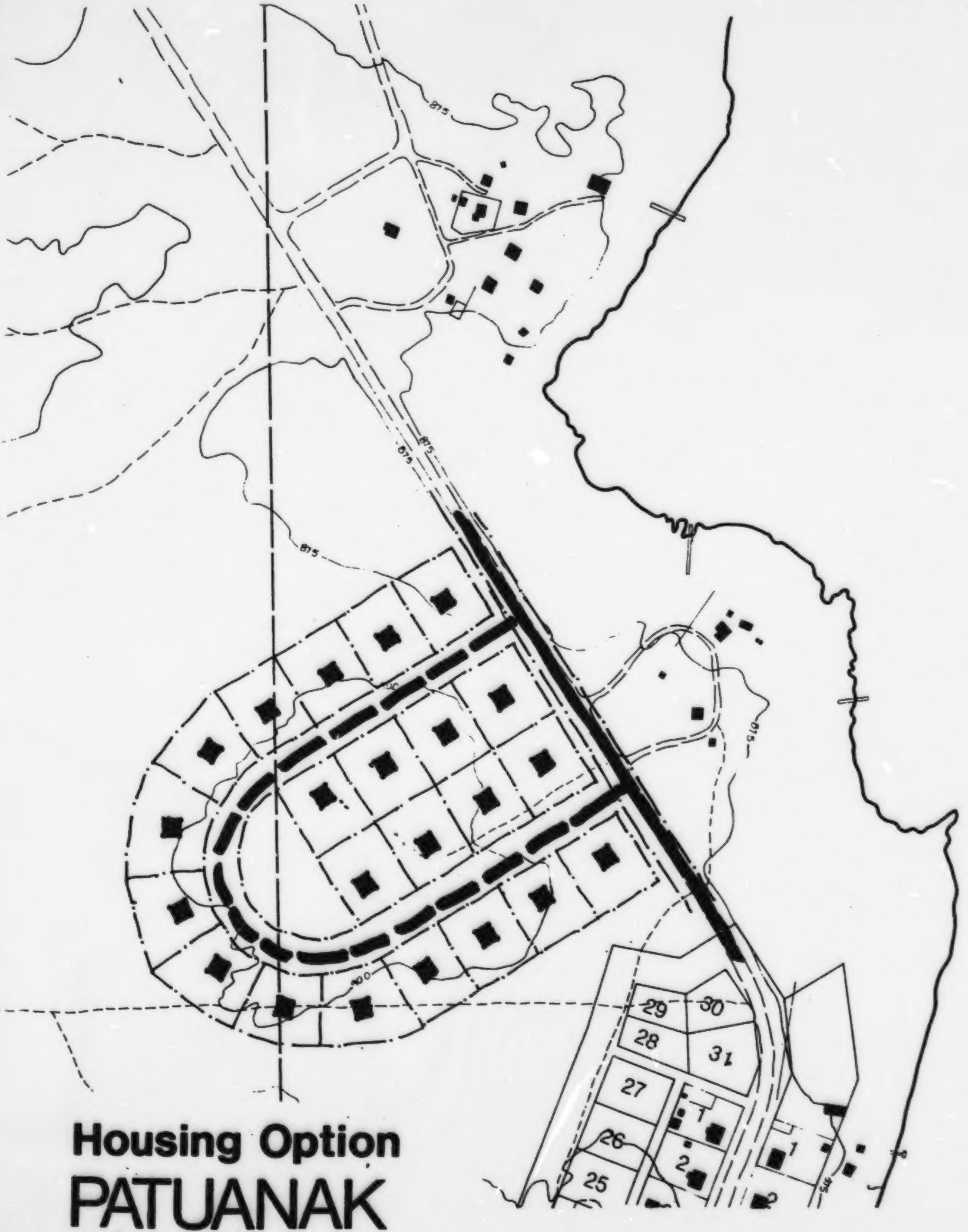
**Housing Option**

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

Figure 11


875
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2
25
1
2

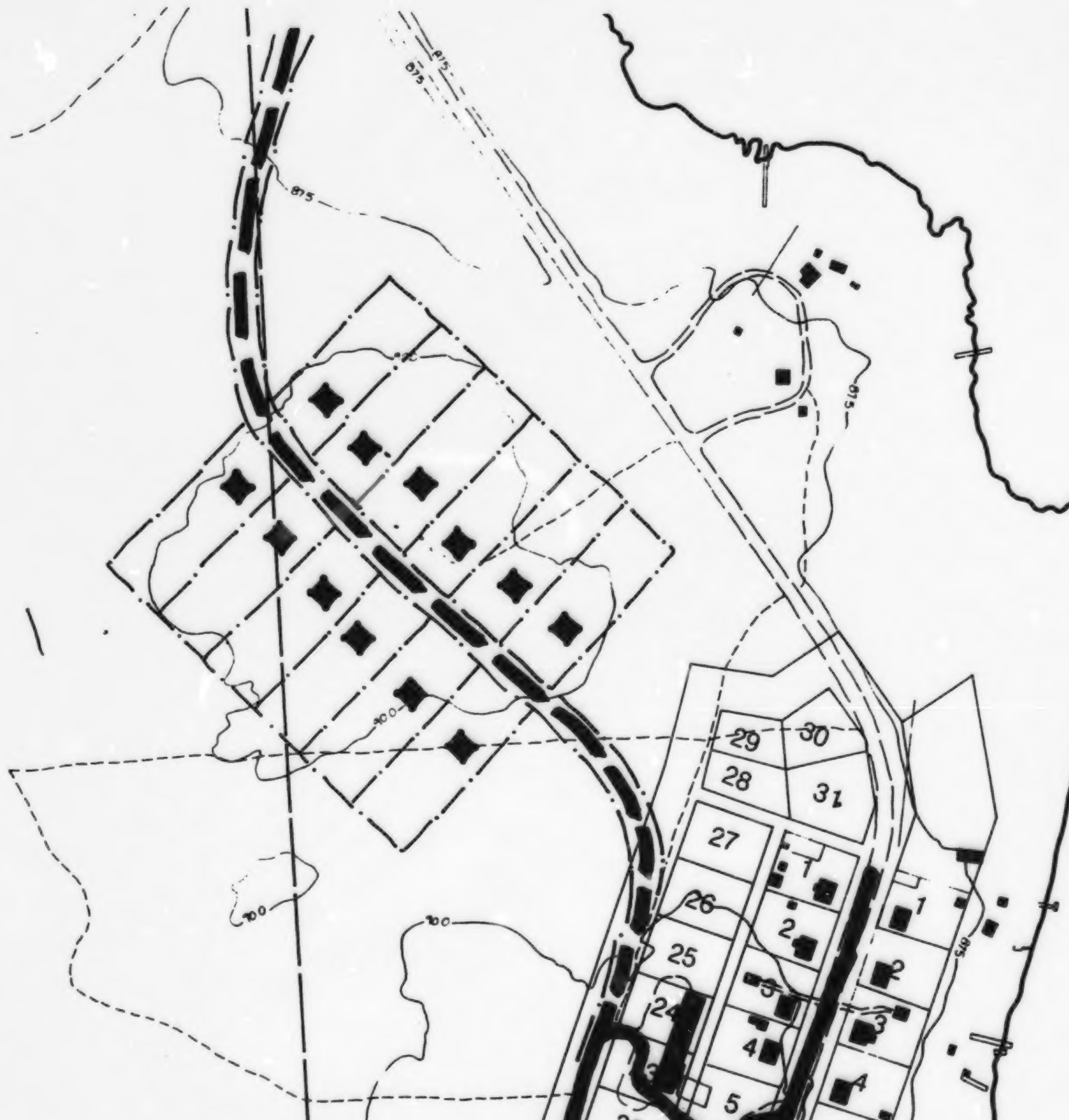
## Housing Option

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

Figure 12



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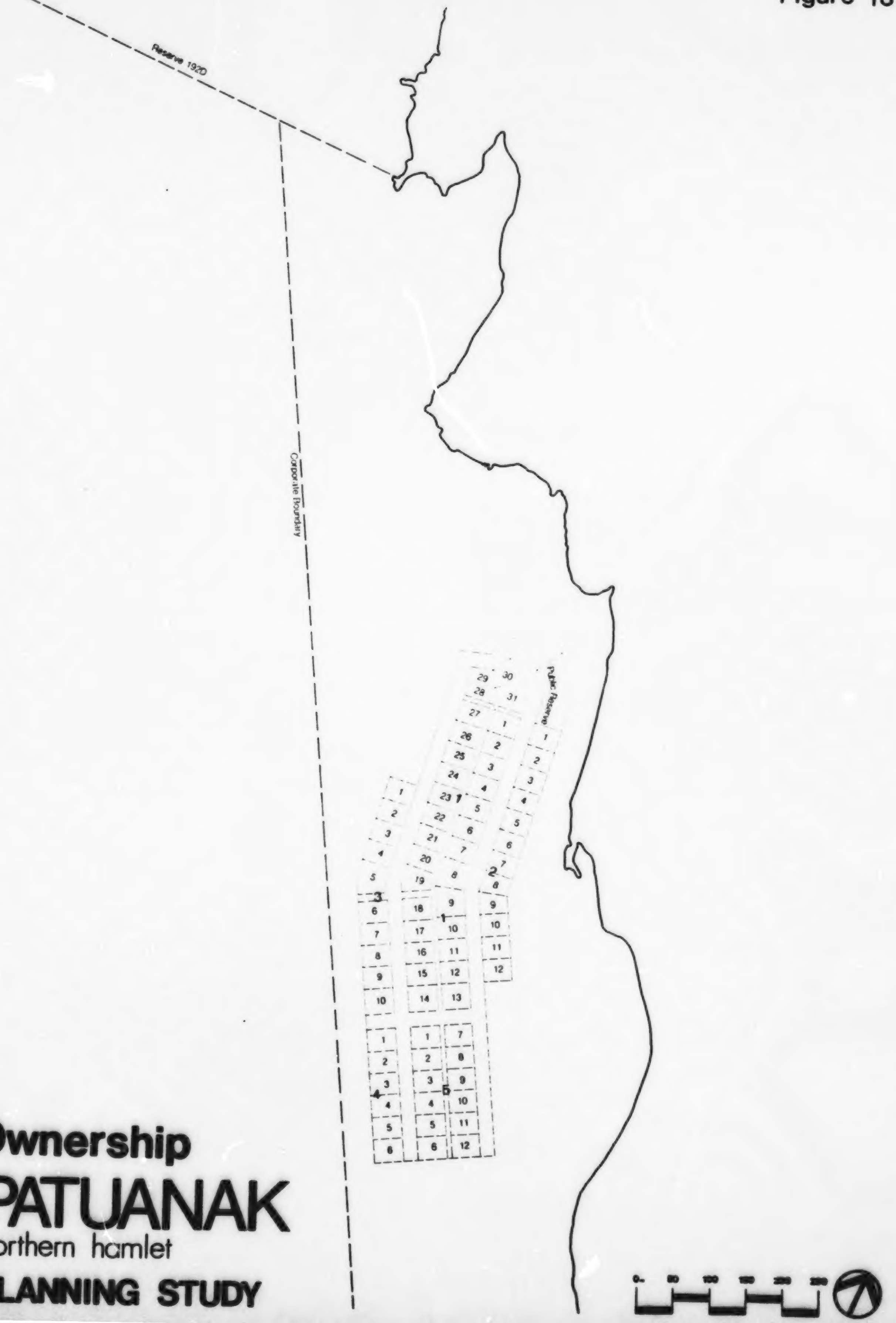
# Housing Option

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

**PLANNING STUDY**

Figure 13


Reserve 1920
Corporate Boundary
Public Reserve
1
2
3
4
5
0
50
100
150
200
250

# Ownership

# PATUANAK

northern hamlet

# PLANNING STUDY

## TABLE 4

## LAND OWNERSHIP - 1984 - PATUANAK

| LOT | BLOCK | PLAN 3 | OWNER |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 72B11057 | John Larivier |
| 2 | 1 | 72B11057 | Mary Maruice |
| 3 | 1 | 72B11057 | John Aubichon |
| 4 | 1 | 72B11057 | Jonas Aubichon |
| 5-6 | 1 | 72B11057 | Jonas Aubichon |
| 7 | 1 | 72B11057 | Albertine Cecile Maurice |
| 8 | 1 | 72B11057 | Agnes Laliberte |
| 9 | 1 | 72B11057 | Matilda Lariviere |
| 10 | 1 | 72B11057 | Victor & Margaret Aubichon |
| 11 | 1 | 72B11057 | Richard & Antoinette Lariviere |
| 12 | 1 | 72B11057 | Rose Gardiner |
| 13-31 | 1 | 79B06393 | Department of Northern Saskatchewan |
| 1 | 2 | 72B11057 | George Janvier |
| 2 | 2 | 72B11057 | Albert Aubichon |
| 3 | 2 | 72B11057 | Mathews Maurice |
| 4 | 2 | 72B11057 | John & Irene Misponas |
| 5 | 2 | 72B11057 | Abraham Laliberte |
| 6 | 2 | 72B11057 | Emilien Laliberte |
| 7 | 2 | 72B11057 | Cecile Maurice |
| 8 | 2 | 72B11057 | Albert & Mary Black |
| 9-10 | 2 | 72B11057 | Etienne & Rose Black |
| 11 | 2 | 72B11057 | Unpatented Crown Land |
| 12 | 2 | 72B11057 | Tobie & Pauline Aubichon |
| 1-10 | 3 | 79B06393 | Department of Northern Saskatchewan |
| Public Reserve | R1 | 79B06393 | Department of Northern Saskatchewan |
| 4 |  | Y3679 | Department of Northern Saskatchewan |
| 5 |  | Y3679 | Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of keewatin |
| Parcel A |  | Y3679 | Unpatented Crown Land |
| Parcel X |  | Y3679 | Department of Indian and Northern Affairs |
| 1-6 | 4 | 80B15791 | Department of Northern Saskatchewan |
| 1-12 | 5 | 80B15791 | Department of Northern Saskatchewan |

Source: Department of Urban Affairs
Battleford Land Titles Office

## 11.0 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

A number of development projects have been identified within this planning document. This Capital Program provides an outline of these projects along with the appropriate cost estimate where available and suggested funding sources. This Capital Program should be reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis, at least annually.

### 1. Fire Hall and Equipment

A fire hall with fire truck and fire fighting equipment is proposed in conjunction with the English River Band. A location on the Reserve has been selected because more people live there, the school is there, and because of the water and sewer system.

The funding for the Hamlet's portion of the fire hall and equipment will come from the Northern Fire Protection Facilities Grant of Saskatchewan Urban Affairs. The total cost estimate is $215,000 with $145,000 in Phase 1 for the building and $90,000 in Phase II for the truck and fire fighting equipment. The Hamlet's share will be $34,500, 95 per cent will be covered by the Northern Fire Protection Grant. Timing is 1986 for Phase 1 and 1987 for Phase II.

2. Office Building

A log building including three offices is proposed at a location north of the community hall. The cost has yet to be determined but may be in the range of $50 - $75,000.

Part of the Hamlet's outstanding Capital Grant of $45,100 will be applied to the office. Funding may also be available from the Saskatchewan Economic Development Program.

3. Shop

A shop for instruction and practice of skills and trades has been proposed. It would be located behind the current community hall. The estimated cost would be in the range of $7,000 to $10,000. Funding may be available from the Canadian Jobs Strategy. Timing is 1986. Saskatchewan Economic Development Program and/or the Hamlet's Capital grant.

## 4. Road Improvement

Little La Ronge Drive is in great need of reconstruction. It would be desirable also to continue Little La Ronge Drive as a developed street north to Moraud Avenue and then linked back to Shagwenaw Drive.

The total distance would be 660 m and the estimated cost would be as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Fill: 3200 cubic metres @ $6.00 | $19,200 |
| 2. | Clearing: .46 hectares @ $5,000.00 | $ 2,300 |
| 3. | Gravel: 545 cubic metres @ $12.00 | $ 6,500 |
| 4. | Drainage: 6 culverts (60 m) @ $100.00 | $ 6,000 |
| | Total | $34,000 |

The estimates are for a road with a crown of 11 metres (36 feet), allowing for two-way traffic and a shoulder. The centre of the road would be raised .3 metres (1 foot) above grade for reconstruction of the existing road and .5 metres (1.6 feet) above grade for the new road. Gravel would be to a depth of .025 metres or about 3 inches.

These estimates are for northern conditions, but may vary locally according to soil conditions and availability of construction equipment.

Timing will depend on the availability of funds.

## 5. Street Lighting

Improved street lighting is desired. It is difficult to provide any cost estimate, as this would depend on the type of light, the spacing between lamp standards, and whether new standards are required. As a starting point, $10,000 might be in the ball park. However, Sask Power Corporation will provide more accurate and site specific estimates.

This project would qualify for the Northern Capital Grant.

## 6. Centralized Water and Sewer

The estimated cost (1980) of a centralized water and sewer system, according to the AESL report, is 2.0 million dollars. Saskatchewan Water Corporation would be the appropriate lead agency providing funding.

Funding should also be requested for service connections and interior plumbing of individual houses.

Timing would depend upon the availability of funding.

## 7. Land Development

At some future time, further lots may be required, as shown in the 'Housing Option' Section of the Appendix. This will be the responsibility of the Hamlet. The types of costs which will be incurred and the estimated costs for a 10 lot subdivision would be as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Survey and Subdivision Approval @ $300.00 per lot | $ 3,000 |
| 2. | Road Construction 300 m @ $50.00 m | $ 15,000 |
| 3. | Power Lines - 10 lots at $1,000 per lot | $ 10,000 |
| | Total | $ 28,000 |

In total, the costs would run to about $28,000 per lot. These are in order of magnitude estimates only. Actual costs would vary according to the subdivision layout, size of lot, distance to power, standard of road and other factors. For example, the above assumes lot sizes of about 100 feet or 30 metres. More detailed estimates should be made once a specific plan is selected.

For estimates of the cost of power line extension for a specific plan, call North Sask Electric at La Ronge, 425-2019.

The cost of lot development would presumably be covered through lot sales. If a Sask Housing program is involved, a certain amount is paid for the lots.

## SOURCES

- compiled plan of surveyed lots at 1:5000 and 1:2000 scale
- contour map of community at 1:2000 scale
- photo blow-up at 1:5000 scale
- N.T.S. map sheet numbers 73/0/13 and 73/0
- aerial photography - October 1983
    - 80183 - 1:15,000 - 16 to 26
    - 80183 - 1:5000 - 227 to 261
- forest inventory maintenance map
- Plan of Survey Wapachewunak Indian Reserve No. 192D
- Population Statistics and Projections 1982 and 1983
- data sheet from boundary discussions
- 1984 Land Use Map
- Land Ownership list

- Terrain Analysis - J. D. Mollard & Associates, 1983

- Patuanak Reserve Community Plan 1980, prepared by Reiber, Dremer Ltd., for D.I.A.N.D.

- Lonely Voyage, Kamil Pecher, Western Producer Prairie Books, Saskatoon, 978

- Catalogue of Saskatchewan Government Grants, Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, 1985

- Preliminary Engineering Study, Jans Bay, prepared by Reid Crowther, 1984

- Preliminary Engineering Study Water and Sanitation Systems for Patuanak, prepared by Associated Engineering Ltd., 1981

- Population Trends, Saskatchewan Hospital Services Plan, 1969-1985 inclusive

- Articles from Denosa

- And Other Newspaper Articles

# Appendix

# Patuanak's Frank McIntyre

By Graham Guest

Frank McIntyre of Patuanak has seen many changes in his time, and he has a story about every one of them.

Frank has watched the gradual change in the lifestyle of the people of the English River Band, from the nomadic life of his grandfather's day, to the settled community life in which his own twelve children and fourteen grandchildren are growing up.

His grandfather, William Apesis, was Chief when the Treaty was signed in 1906, and remained Chief for thirty-two years, until 1938.

Frank grew up at various places along the Churchill River and travelled with his family to traplines up around Cree Lake. For four years he attended the residential school in Beauval.

"Before school started in the fall, we'd be sent out picking berries for the Grey Nuns to can. They did lots of work, the Grey Nuns - they gave their lives to teaching the Indian children, and they weren't on any payroll! In the residence we had to speak strictly English, but when we went into the bush my partner was often Cree, and I began to learn Cree as well as English."

"When we were older, maybe fourteen, we would saddle the horses and go out into the fields to get the cows. Boy, I used to enjoy that! We earned twenty-five cents a day for the work we did for the priests, and if I had two dollars in my pocket in those days I felt like a millionaire."

"My supervisor had a leather jacket and, oh boy, I wanted one like that! There was one in the Bay store in Beauval and I couldn't take my eyes off it. It took me ten months, but finally I had saved enough and was able to go in and buy it!"

"One of the mission Brothers looked after the chicken coops," Frank recalls. "He used to shut the roosters up in corrals to mate with the hens, but we used to let them out and make them fight. If you were caught doing that you'd lose all your pay!"

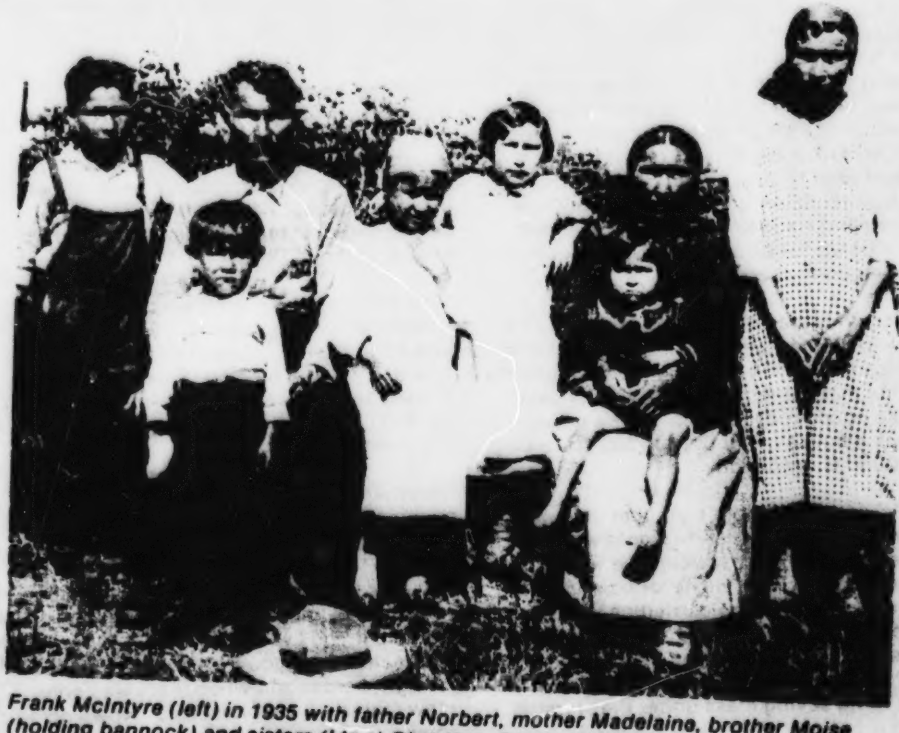
"During my last year in school many people got sick with German measles. At the Beauval school fifteen boys and twelve girls died. The priests' rectory was turned into a temporary hospital but there was no medicine for it in those days, and many who didn't die were crippled up for life."

Frank left the convent in 1937 and returned to his family trapping up around Cree Lake. "We sometimes went as far north as Stony Rapids for supplies. I remember Pat Robillard playing the fiddle, guitar and mouth-organ for dances up at Stony."

The Hudson Bay Company and Revillon Freres had traders travelling to the people on their traplines. "They'd leave the groceries and we'd mark down what we used. We never saw money, it was all done by credit. At the end of the season we'd go to the store with our furs and everything would be added up, and...we'd owe them money!"

"But we Indians never found it too hard in the Dirty Thirties because we lived off the land," Frank remembers. "About all we needed from the store were matches, tea and ammunition. If we had these we felt one-hundred percent!"

"A lot of white trappers came through this way in the Thirties," Frank recalls, "and most of them were able to survive in the wilderness and some learned to live off the land just like the Indians. I first met Ed Theriau and Fred Derbyshire in 1938 at the east end of Cree Lake, and they were like that. Ed would carry his dough all ready for use, and would throw it in a pan with a piece of moose meat and some bear grease, and away he'd go!"



*Frank McIntyre (left) in 1935 with father Norbert, mother Madelaine, brother Moise (holding bannock) and sisters (l to r) Christine, Cecile, Celine and Rosa. The photograph was taken by a lay missionary while the family was in Patuanak for the summer.*

DENOSA - JUNE/1982.

While trapping at Cree Lake Frank also got to know other members of the English River Band, including Clement John and his family, who still spend most of their me there. "Clement is quite old now, and o see him today you wouldn't think he could lift five pounds. But when we used to travel back to Cree Lake he would lift up a twenty-foot canoe onto his shoulders and go the whole way over the three-mile portage!"

"I was a pretty good packer, too. When young people today ask me how come I'm short, I tell them it's because I used to pack such heavy loads in the old days!"

"Clement always had the best dog-team," Frank continues, "and he really knew how to break a dog to harness. We used oak toboggans if we could get them, because they were really slippery and the best. But they cost twenty-four dollars so we often made our own out of birch, which was also good."

"The barren-ground caribou used to be at Cree Lake. When we used to see them the dogs would go wild, and there'd be a great caribou stampede. Sometimes we'd have a bit of fun with the dogs. When they were all lying down and quiet we'd start shooting our rifles in the air, and the dogs would jump up and think the caribou were there and go crazy! Boy, we used to have me good laughs!"

"There was commercial fishing in the winter, too," Frank recalls. "When we lived at Sucker Point on Lac Ile a la Crosse, we'd see a train of horses all down the lake, two hundred teams sometimes, with their loads of fish boxes piled up high on their way to Big River. The first person from here to start commercial fishing was Alexander George. They fished at Cree Lake and Haultain Lake from here, and my father fished at Primeau Lake in the nineteen-thirties."

Frank has many memories of Patuanak's priest, Father Moraud. "I had known him since I was a kid. He was a real wilderness man, that Father Moraud. Other priests take holidays or retreats, but he never took a holiday, and used to say 'travelling around is my holiday'."

"He was a tough old man, that little priest. Even in cold weather he would wash in the lake, and at forty below he would wash in the snow. He never complained, even if sick, but just carried on with his work. He always carried a box along for his equipment for saying mass. Even at ty below he'd be up at six in the rning saying mass under the stars!"

*Frank in the grounds of the Patuanak rectory, overlooking the Shagwenaw Rapids on the Churchill river.*

Frank has several stories of unusual incidents involving Father Moraud. "One time he was taking supplies down the Churchill, and everybody was unloading at Dipper Rapids portage. We never shoot those rapids, but Father Moraud's canoe got carried over them loaded down with lumber and him standing in it."

"The people were scared and went running down the portage, but the canoe just went down nicely and not even a drop of water got in. The priest was there smiling and he said: 'That's pretty nice - we don't have to work so hard now!' It was like a miracle."

"Another time the priest and four other people had to get from an island to the Ile a la Crosse mission and the ice was forming. When the ice had only been formed a few hours the priest led them across it. He told them not to be afraid, and said if you live by the Commandments you'll be alright. They got right across and when there was only a few feet to go the priest said: 'Now you go ahead'. The other people went ahead, and they all fell through!"

Frank remembers an occasion when some anthropologists from New York visited the area. "They took me with them into the bush. They just took flour, baking powder, salt and tea, and I had to set rabbit snares so that we would live like Indians in the old days."

"I cleaned the rabbits and threw them in the stew. There was a woman along, and I watched as she dipped into the stew. When she came up with a rabbit head she looked at it for a moment and then slowly put it back in the pot so that no-one would notice and took another piece!"

"To us the heads are the best part. Moose and caribou heads are number one food. To us that's just like a high class restuarant!"

Frank's action-filled life has also included canoeing down the Churchill River with a well-known photographer, and escaping from a Bombardier which broke through the ice while he was commercial fishing on Great Slave Lake. Frank is a past Chief of the English River Band, and is now a fur block chairman and an instructor at trapper training schools on the West Side.

# Patuanak.......

*Cecile McIntyre and Margaret Wolverine clean a moosehide. Juliette George watches and learns.*

# ...combining old and new

**Story and pictures by Graham Guest**

Like many other northern communities, Patuanak is working to combine the old with the new. And Patuanak is doing well.

Many activities from the past continue at Patuanak. Together with trapping and fishing, the residents also clean and prepare hides, smoke fish and meat, build skiffs and birch toboggans, carve paddles and wooden ornaments, and make snowshoes and a variety of leather items such as moccasins, mitts and jackets.

At the same time, Patuanak supplies more employees to the Cluff Lake mine than any other northern community, including places twice its size, and Patuanak men and women also work at the Key Lake mine-site and on the Dillon and Beauval-to-Pinehouse roads.

The community of Patuanak has other claims to fame, too. It is well-known for producing top-rank hockey players, and has probably produced more RCMP Special Constables than any other community in the province.

### the Churchill

Patuanak, a Chipweyan community of about 650 people, is located beside the Shagwenaw Rapids on the Churchill River. The pleasant and spacious community stretches for a mile and a half along the shoreline, with the reserve near the year-round open water below the rapids, and the non-Treaty homes facing onto Shagwenaw Lake.

Light, hand-built wooden skiffs dot the shoreline, and show the residents' continuing interest in travel up and down the Churchill River. Traditionally, most of the families now at Patuanak lived downriver at Primeau Lake, Dipper Lake and Knee Lake, or up at Cree Lake. And even those remote settlements were only seasonal homes, as most families spent the winters on their traplines north of the Churchill to Cree Lake and beyond.

Patuanak resident Frank McIntyre, whose family home was at Dipper Lake, says the Hudson's Bay Company trading post which served the area was originally down the Churchill at the Belanger River, north of Pinehouse Lake. Later the store was moved to Knee Lake, and Norbert orge recalls that his father ran it there many years, and farmed at the same time.

"Knee Lake was a good area for trapping and fishing," Norbert says, "and there were big grass meadows there. My dad brought in two cows from the Beauval mission by scow, to get started. When I was a kid we had thirty-five or forty head of cattle, and four teams of horses -- boy, that was a lot of work! I remember cutting hay by hand all day long -- that was good exercise!"

"About ten or eleven families lived there then," Norbert continues. "Dad built the store out of logs, and ran it for the Bay for forty years. Freight was brought in down the river from Ile a la Crosse, but it was hard work, with nine rapids down to Knee Lake. Sometimes horses were used in the winter but the ice was unsafe on the Churchill."

The Hudson's Bay Company eventually set up a store at Patuanak to replace the ones farther down the Churchill, and Patuanak became a fur-buying centre. "We used to come to Patuanak for the summer," says Frank McIntyre. "In those days there were just four or five log cabins beside the Church and Bay store. We lived in tents through the summer."

The traditional trapping grounds of the people of Patuanak covered all the region between the Haultain River and the Mudjatik River and northwards to include Cree Lake. "We'd go as far north as Engemann Lake and the Cree River," Frank remembers. "They were good areas for muskrat in the spring."

### A Priest for Patuanak

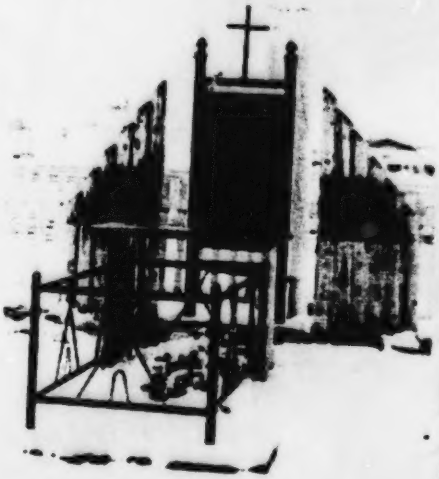
In 1916 the now-legendary Father Louis Moraud began visits to the people of the English River Band, from the Catholic Mission at Ile a La Crosse. In 1930 he became resident priest at Patuanak, and continued to serve the people of the English River Band area until his death in 1965. Altogether, he had served the people of the upper Churchill area for fifty years.

Frank McIntyre says Father Moraud did not want to see a larger or more permanent settlement at Patuanak, however, believing the people better off in their more remote settlements and on their traplines. During the following years he built churches at Dipper Lake, Primeau Lake, Knee Lake and Cree Lake.

In winter Father Moraud visited the families at their trapping camps. "He'd go down the Churchill," Frank recalls, "and then up at Cree Lake there were five or six different settlements and he'd spend a week at each place. Then he would travel down to Haultain Lake, and when the families left for Patuanak he would come down with them."

Patuanak's permanent population remained small until 1968. A 1961 census showed that the settlements at Dipper Lake, Primeau Lake, Knee Lake, and Cree Lake had a total population of over 220, while only 154 people lived in Patuanak. In 1968 the school opened in Patuanak, and many families moved in so that their children could attend. By 1971 the population of Patuanak had risen to 438 people.

Before 1968 the children were sent to the mission schools at Beauval and Ile a La Crosse, while their families went north to trap. The ten-month separation was hard on the children and their families, but living in the community year-round was not an ideal solution either. Going to the trapline had been a family affair, and children at least experienced the trapline life before reaching school-age and on their return. Now men must go alone or with trapping partners, while their wives stayed in the community with the children



*Father Moraud's grave.*

Spring in Patuanak. The skiffs won't be bottom-up for long!

A few families, like Clement and John J[illegible]n and their families of Cree Lake, have [illegible]g on to the old ways and still live at h[illegible]remote settlement , staying in Patuanak only occasionally.

**K[illegible]ping the Culture**

The traditional activities of the people of Patuanak can be seen on all sides during a [illegible]sit to the community. When the warm sp[illegible]ng weather arrives, many women set up moose hides on racks for scraping. Victoria Tcho (a shortened form of the Chipewyan name 'Edechanchyonce') is w[illegible]king on nine hides this summer, most o[illegible]hem for people in Ile a La Crosse and La Loche.

"A[illegible] summer I'm hired to do moose-hi[illegible]s," Victoria says. "Last summer I did ten and the year before eight. This year the[illegible] brought twelve, but I sent three ba[illegible]k." She chuckles, and adds: "I must be ge[illegible]ng tired!"

The process involves a great amount of w[illegible]k, and to complete one hide may take up [illegible]o two weeks. The work includes scr[illegible]g off the flesh and hair, twice soa[illegible]g it and wringing it out, pulling it ov[illegible] a wire to soften it, and sewing it to[illegible]ther and smoking it.

Many articles of leatherwork are made in the community, complete with fur trim and intricate beadwork. Christine George regularly produces beautiful mukluks, mitts, moccasins, and 'jiskeh' or wrap-arounds. She sometimes still works with dyed porcupine quills which were left to her by her husband Eugene's aunt, Rose Black, who died two years ago at the age of ninety-three.

Eugene George still makes his own birch toboggans. Having cut the boards from seasoned birch logs he makes the curled front by boiling the boards in water for six hours, and then bending them over a wooden form and drying them over a wood-stove for two weeks. He then takes them off the forms and adds the back-boards and canvas.

Eugene and Christine's son Gary is a metal worker, and from old snowmobile springs or files he makes the scrapers used for removing the hair from hides. The 'fleshers' made of bone used by Christine were made by Eugene's father, the late Alexander George.

Many of the men of the community still trap on the traditional trapping grounds, and Ed Black, Chief of the English River Band since last October, says commercial fishing is also flourishing. "People from here are fishing all over. There are about fifteen fishing outfits here, with two or three fishermen per outfit," he says.

**New Opportunities**

Chief Black says Patuanak had to wait a long time for its road, but since it got it four years ago other opportunities have opened up. "The road gives access to other jobs, and we've got a lot to offer in the way of human resources -- students with grade twelve, and plenty of people in trades."

Yvonne McIntyre, Welfare Worker with the Band, reports that Patuanak people are employed in a wide variety of jobs. "At Cluff Lake and Key Lake we have men and women employed as mill-workers, heavy-equipment operators, lab samplers, carpenters, electricians and mechanics. And on the highways we've got heavy-equipment operators, camp caretakers and payroll clerks. Quite a few of our boys are working for their journeyman's in mechanics and the electrical trades."

Patuanak is also proud if its men and women in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Yvonne says five Band members have become Special Constables, two more will join this summer, and several students at the Beauval residential school are interested in careers with the RCMP.

Chief Ed Black and Recreation Director Fred Campbell will talk at length on the achievements of Patuanak's hockey players, and there is a display-case full of trophies in the Band Office to back up their claims.

The Patuanak Pats have gained first place three times in the Meadow Lake Tournament, and Ed Black says in ten tournaments they have never been lower than third. The boys learned the game while attending the residential school in Beauval, and the team has been playing since 1973. Abe Apesis went on to play for the Saskatoon Blades, and Augie George became a semi-professional player in the States.

Etienne Black, LAC Secretary and overseer of the non-Treaty community, says last winter Patuanak used its new arena for the first time. "Now we've got minor hockey players coming up," Etienne says. "It was the first year for Bantams, Peewee and old-timers, and things went well."

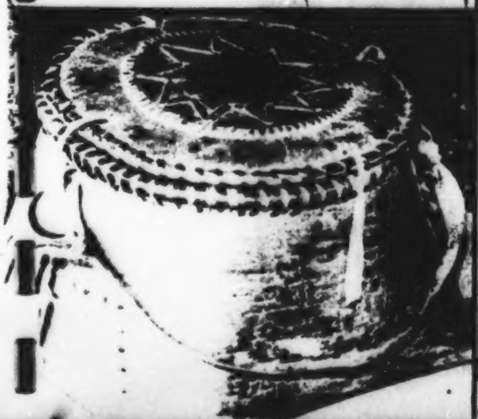
The quality of life in Patuanak owes much to the way the residents have combined their cultural past with today's new opportunities. Frank McIntyre would also give some of the credit to Patuanak's priest.

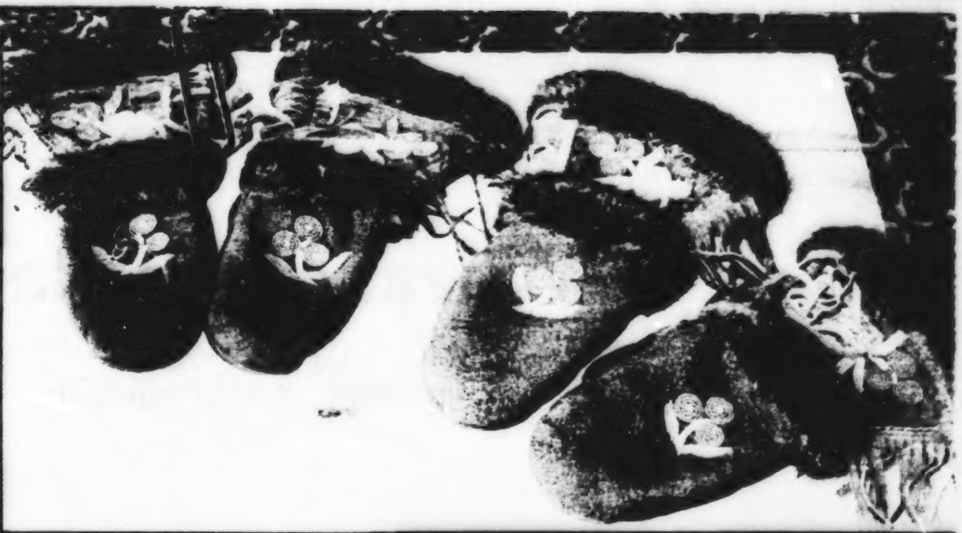
"Father Moraud was pretty strict and kept an eye on everything," he says. "There have been some big changes since he died in 1965, but if it hadn't been for him we wouldn't have the quiet and peaceful community we have today."

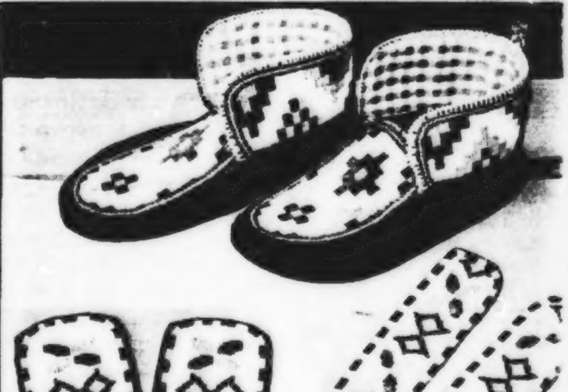
*Karen Laliberte and Karen Ann Apesis enjoy making string art designs*

*Eugene George and his birch toboggans. Beside them is the form he uses to make them.*

*Etienne Black, LAC secretary, is also a businessman. A store owner since 1975, he added a service station and later got into the taxi business.*







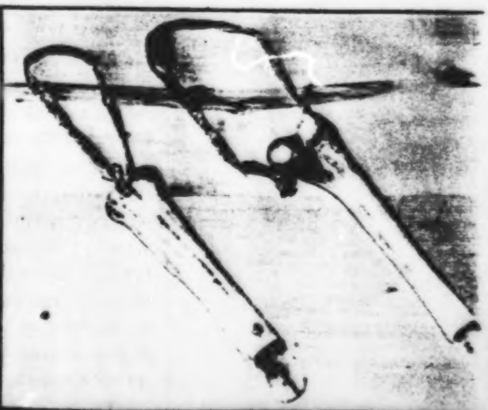
*Christine George (left) made the mukluks, mitts and mocassins.*

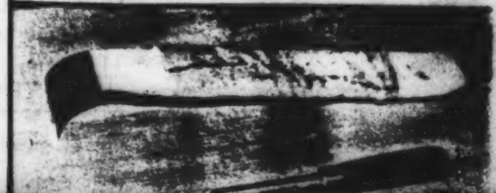
*Dyed porcupine quills (left, below) are sometimes still used for decoration.*

*The birchbark basket, sewn together with spruce roots, was made by Rose Black, who died two years ago aged 93.*

*Victoria Tcho (below) holds a bone flesher used for cleaning hides. The fleshers are made of moose and bear bones, and the metal scraper, with its sharpener, is used to removing the hair from hides.*

# Patuanak Handicrafts





Sask. Business Mar/apr/ 1982

# 'Wheat of the North'

## *Wild rice processors seeking quality, world markets*

By JACQUELINE TOUPIN

By next fall, there could be two wild rice processing plants operating in La Ronge where today, there is none.

One plant is proposed by the new northern company, the La Ronge Wild Rice Corporation which represents the north's largest rice producers, La Ronge Industries and the La Ronge Indian Band. Keewatin Wild Rice Limited, a newly formed co-operative, has plans for another plant.

Why the sudden rush for wild rice plants? There's no doubt the industry is growing in Northern Saskatchewan: production has increased from 42,000 pounds in the early '70's to 510,000 pounds this year. Added to that, the government has plans to further expand the industry. Last year, it promoted seeding of lakeshores, and reports 121,000 pounds of green rice were seeded.

Department of Northern Saskatchewan agrologist, Pab Orcajada, predicts "production could rise to 900,000 pounds by next year and to over 3½ million by 1990."

Another big reason to process in Saskatchewan is money. Green rice commanded $1.10 a pound this year. Processing costs about 16 cents a pound. But bulk processed rice sells for $4. And it may cost the consumer as much as $20. — or more — over the counter. The difference speaks for itself.

Time is another factor: the green rice spoils about ten days after it's been picked.

"The rice plant is a necessity to us," says Kaz Parada, spokesperson for La Ronge Rice Corporation. "We just want to process what's produced now."

"We're losing lots of money on transportation from here to Manitoba, where our rice is now processed. Then, if it doesn't get sold right away, we have to store it and wait for better prices. So that means extra costs." The La Ronge Corporation has just over 100,000 pounds of dry rice in storage in Dear, Minnesota. "We could use the plant to process and store our rice, too."

Parada predicts his costs on the plant will be about $200,000. Keewatin Co-op has plans for a much

*Workers harvest rice that is now processed in Manitoba.*

larger operation of about $500,000, if it can get off the ground. To date, the co-op has 70 members who brought in about 35,000 pounds of green rice.

The co-op is counting on cashing in on DNS's expansion program. Says co-op chairman, Oscar Beatty, "Production should increase by next year. There's unlimited water in the north on lakeshores that could be developed and planted."

Beatty also points to new kinds of seeds, planting techniques and a mechanical harvester as ways of increasing production.

To Beatty and DNS, wild rice could become the "wheat of northern Saskatchewan." "It's a renewable resource that won't damage the environment. In fact, it'll produce something good: food," says Beatty. He adds it could create many new jobs that would allow northerners to stay here. "It could supplement the income of trappers and fishermen."

The question is: are the markets there for wild rice? Saskatchewan's problem is competition with cheaper

*Skimmer-type vehicle brings mechanization to the harvesting of wild rice in northern Saskatchewan.*

He points to a study showing "few people in Saskatchewan have even tasted wild rice."

But Parada sees marketing as a problem. He's got this year's and part of last year's rice still in storage in Minnesota "waiting for someone interested in buying it." He's also tried promotion in Saskatchewan: "Saskatchewan people are especially conservative. They don't want to try anything new. We recently went to a large agricultural fair with thousands of people there. We only sold about 100 pounds of rice." Parada now relies on the bulk rice market for sales. "But we might get into packaging rice to market it."

The co-op announced its building plans last summer; Parada and the Band announced theirs in the fall. "We'll be going to the same agencies for funding," admits Parada. "I guess they'll choose who goes ahead."

Although there was talk of Parada and the Band joining the co-op, they didn't. Says Parada, "I haven't seen a co-op work in the north. I don't see this one as a grass roots co-op organized by the people in the bush. It's DNS organized and that just doesn't work." SB

# Key Lake gives work to northerners

Construction of the Key Lake uranium mine is generating significant business and employment opportunities for northern residents.

Mike Mercredi, director of the department of northern Saskatchewan's manpower secretariat, said a year-end review of the Key Lake project indicated that eleven of twenty contracts awarded had gone to northern companies, including joint ventures which are at least 51 percent owned by northern interests. The northern contracts totalled $33.8 million of the $59.4 million awarded to date.

Mr. Mercredi said another 15 contracts are expected to be decided for the Key Lake project prior to March 31.

Under terms of the surface lease agreement between the department of northern Saskatchewan (DNS) and the Key Lake Mining Corporation (KLMC), northern Native employment requirements are specified for particular [illegible]s of jobs during the construction period. The percentages required and percentages achieved as of November 28 are noted below:

*Key Lake employees board the Convair in La Ronge for a free flight to work.*

While no northern employment percentage was specified for apprenticeable trades, the agreement does require that at least 15 percent of apprenticeable tradespersons be first year apprentices and that all such apprentices by native northerners. Mercredi said the achieved percentage of first year apprentices was only 12.2 percent. As a result, the means of increasing this level are being discussed with KLMC.

"We are pleased that more than 30 percent of the apprenticeable trades employment has gone to native northerners, and it should be noted that additional northern employment has been provided for northern residents who are not of Native ancestry," said Mercredi.

Once the mine is fully operational, the surface lease agreement requires at least 50 percent of the personnel to be Native northerners.

| | Required | Achieved to Date (Person Days) |
|---|---|---|
| Non-Apprenticeable Trades | 60% | 69.4% |
| Apprenticeable Trades | - | 32.2% |
| Technical and Administrative | 10% | 17.7% |

# More than 300 northerners employed at mines

A number of northern residents are now involved in full-time employment with uranium mines in the north. Figures released by the DNS Manpower Secretariat in December, 1981 indicate that 134 northern residents of Indian ancestry were working at Key Lake, 101 at Cluff Lake and 58 at Rabbit Lake.

DNS spokesman Lex Winram emphasized the figures do not reflect the true picture, since a number of native northerners have taken up residence outside the northern administration district since becoming employed at the mines. These northerners, temporarily resident in the south, are not included in the figures, he said. Also, northern residents of non-native origin are not shown in this tally.

For those still resident in the north, the figures break down as follows:

**Key Lake:** Beauval 3; Buffalo Narrows 8; Cumberland House 19; Dore Lake 1; Green Lake 13; Ile a la Crosse 20; La Loche 3; La Ronge 47; Pelican Narrows 1; Pinehouse 7; Sandy Bay 6; Southend 1 and Weyakwin 1.

**Cluff Lake:** Beauval 21; Buffalo Narrows 10; Canoe Lake 1; Canoe Narrows 7; Cole Bay 5; Dillon 2; Green Lake 1; Ile a la Crosse 21; Jans Bay 1; La Loche 7; La Ronge 2; Patuanak 23.

**Rabbit Lake:** Black Lake 21; Camsell Portage 5; Fond du Lac 15; Stony Rapids 10; Uranium City 3; Wollaston 4.

DENOSA, FEBRUARY/1982.

# Form and function north of 60...
# A-E firm designs for NWT residents

**By Louanne Smrke**

Ferguson, Naylor, Simek, Clark Limited is a firm of consulting engineers and architects started in 1978 in Yellowknife by professional engineers Dana Ferguson and Doug Naylor[*]. The company which began as a small mechanical engineering practice now employs 20 people in its main office in Yellowknife.

The firm has grown to incorporate new partners and a wider range of services — civil, structural, architectural. Stefan Simek, P.Eng. joined the partnership in 1979 and architect Clive Clark, who heads up the company's Toronto office, joined the group in 1980.

Most of the design firm's engineering work is carried out in the Yellowknife office. The company has undertaken a wide variety of projects throughout the Northwest Territories. Two of these, completed in Septemer 1982, are good examples of successful balancing of form and function to meet the needs of N.W.T. residents.

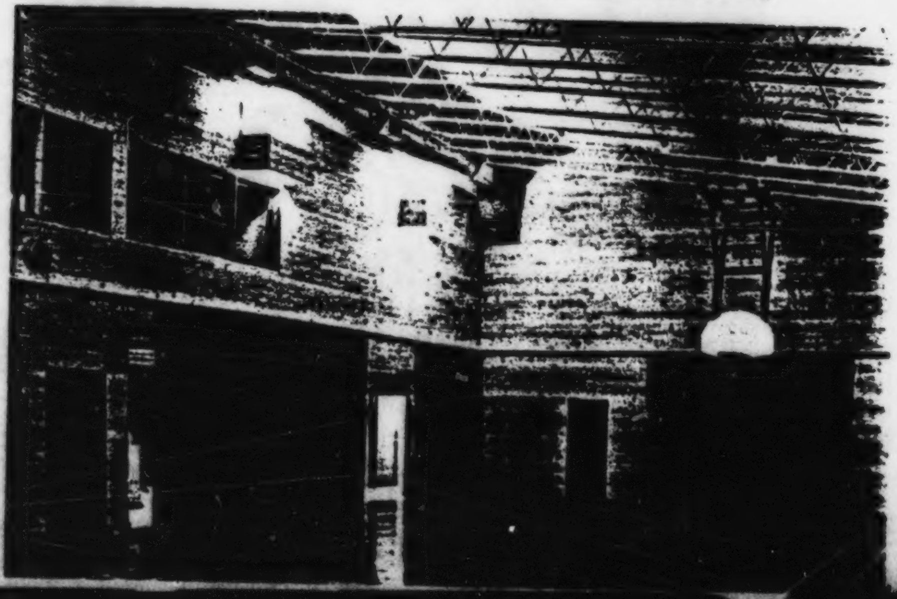
One is the Pelly Bay Community Services Centre. Located on Simpson Peninsula, on the north west corner of Hudson's Bay, Pelly Bay has a population of 300 — mostly Inuit. The two-storey community centre contains hamlet offices, a post office, gymnasium, council chamber, viewing lounge and radio station. The building was designed to allow prevailing wind to remove snow drifts from the entrance and to provide the best views of the community and the sea.

Glue laminated beams and wood/metal truss joints were used in the 976-sq m wooden-frame building. Concrete floor slabs on gravel were used in the gym and basement. The walls and roof have been insulated to R30 and R40, respectively.

The town's nearby diesel generator supplies heat from its jacket water. Hot water is supplied by a heat exchanger with back-up oil-fired boilers. The gym is heated using radiant heating from plastic pipes in the floor slabs. Water and sewage tanks are located in the basement and serviced by trucks.

All materials were flown by Hercules aircraft from Yellowknife.

Pelly Bay Community Services Centre, Simpson Peninsula, Hudson's Bay.



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[*] Doug Naylor recently left Ferguson, Naylor, Simek Clark but buildings described here were designed when he was still with the company. The firm is now called Ferguson, Simek, Clark Limited.

Cost of the centre was $2 million. Building time was approximately 13 months.

Another recently completed project of the firm is the Lac La Martre Elementary School, located 161 km north west of Yellowknife. The population of this log cabin community of 300 is almost entirely Dene Indian. The school which reflects the functions of the community, comprises two rectangles connected by a lobby. One rectangle contains a gymnasium and industrial arts/home economics areas; the other, the academic and administrative areas.

A high lobby space and second-floor fan rooms connect the tall mass of the gym to the lower portion of the building with a sloping roof. At the rear of the gym a sloping roof enclosed a boiler room with mezzanine and change rooms.

The structure sits on nine-metre steel piles driven down through permafrost to limestone bedrock. There are steel beams from just above grade; from there up, the building is constructed with a wooden frame, plywood box beams, wood/metal truss joints and metal roof cladding. The walls and roof are insulated to R30 and R40, respectively. A heated crawl space for mechanical piping, electrical wiring and ductwork is expected to melt the permafrost so a superimposed fill 600-mm high was placed under the school. In this way when the grade subsides, the crawl space floor will not be lower than the outside grade.

Hot water convectors utilize waste jacket and muffler heat from the town's diesel generator. As well, there are back-up oil-fired boilers and an emergency generator so the school can be used as a community shelter if necessary. Three 7500-gal fibreglass storage tanks are housed in the sub-basement for domestic water and the sprinkler system.

Building materials were shipped by winter road from January to March 82. Construction also began in January and was completed in September. Cost of the school was $3 million.

An even more recent project of Ferguson, Naylor, Simek, Clark is the new 3437-sq m Computer Services Building of the Government of the N.W.T. Now under construction in Yellowknife, the three storey, $4-million building should be completed by the end of this year. □

Lac La Martre Elementary School, 161 km N.W. of Yellowknife.

Pinehouse resident James Smith and his daughter

# Northerners disenchanted with expensive housing

Last of four parts

By Earl Fowler
of the Star-Phoenix

PINEHOUSE — James Smith doesn't live here any more — not in the three-bedroom bungalow he purchased three years ago, anyway.

Last spring, the 44-year-old wild rice farmer moved back to the smaller house where he and his family used to live. The old place doesn't have a basement and Smith really hadn't planned to go back.

"But we had to. I had been paying about $185 a month on the new house after I put down $500 for a down payment. Then all of a sudden, they (Saskatchewan Housing Corp.) said they wanted close to $450 a month, including $65 for a water hook-up.

"The house was going to cost me $70,000. My first house cost about $6,000 and took 14 years to pay for," said Smith. "So I figured it might take 600 years to pay for the new one."

Smith handed the new house back to SHC, which is renting it to another family in this northern village. He's part of a trend away from expensive government housing in northern Saskatchewan.

**The NEW Frontier**

Next week, Greg Ross of Pinehouse hopes to move his family into a three-bedroom log house he is building with $17.20 worth of logs from just outside the town.

"I got out of buying a conventional new house from the government for $72,000 — a house that I could probably build with the help of my friends for $35,000.

"Instead, the house I'm building will cost about $7,000 to close it in. That doesn't include plumbing and electricity, but I can have a place for my family that's just fine."

Ross is one of a handful of Pinehouse residents to build log houses in the last couple of years. The village council is leasing his lot to him for a measly $50 a year, and he expects many others to dump "overpriced government houses" in favor of inexpensive log homes.

Ile-a-la-Crosse Mayor Nap Gardiner said the renewed interest in log homes began in his community three years ago, and is spreading across the west side of northern Saskatchewan.

Gardiner owns one of the nicest of the 20 new log houses in Ile-a-la-Crosse — a comfortable two-storey building appraised at $46,000, although it cost him only $20,000 to build.

He said his village sells serviced lots for $1,000, "but we can't be too sticky if a guy only has $5,000 for his whole house."

"You can build a basic 24-by-30-foot log house for $5,000, but if you want sewer and water, it'll probably cost $15,000," said Ile-a-la-Crosse Coun. Max Morin.

Many people are moving out of communities and building log cabins in the bush, said Beauval construction consultant Lloyd Ogilvie.

Coun. Daniel Desjarlais of the tiny Metis community of Cole Bay complained that Prince Albert Pulp Company, which has logging rights in the area, won't give residents permission to cut jackpine or spruce for log homes.

Relations frosty
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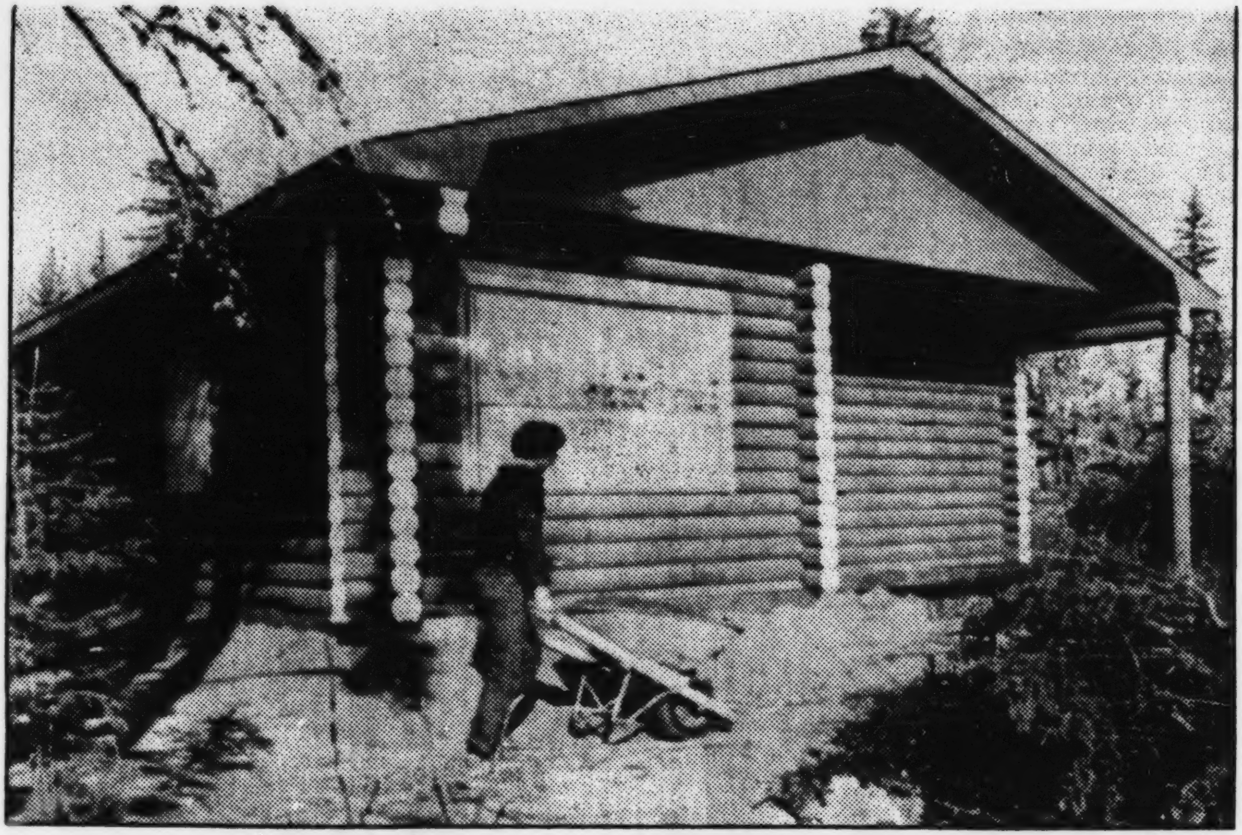

Senior citizens' log houses under construction in Pinehouse

# Gov't, north differ on housing

**By Earl Fowler**
**of the Star-Phoenix**

PINEHOUSE — Relations between government housing officials and many northern natives have been frosty for years.

In this village, for example, the council devoted its $45,000 capital budget this fall to building three senior citizen units, rather than accepting conditions attached to Saskatchewan Housing Corp. (SHC) money.

Mayor George Smith said SHC officials wanted to build duplexes and install electric stoves, while Pinehouse seniors wanted two-bedroom houses with wood stoves.

He said SHC refused to give the local housing group the contract to build the units, because as "a non-profit company, we couldn't get bonded."

This was despite the fact that the community company had no cost over-runs on 34 houses built on subcontracts for the Department of Northern Saskatchewan.

The real losers when this sort of disagreement wells up, of course, are the people in urgent need of accommodation.

But northern municipal leaders are in complete accord with SHC Minister Sid Dutchak on two fundamental matters: that there is a need for more housing in the north, and that senior governments have a role to play in its delivery.

Dutchak said given the disparity between what it costs to build a house in the region and what you can rent or sell it for, private contractors are unlikely to meet the demands of a growing population.

So what does the future hold?

SHC vice-president Larry Little said the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. (CMHC) is seeking provincial input, as it designs an improved rural housing program.

Dutchak said he's encouraged by the initiative taken by some northerners in building their own houses. He said his government is considering ways of furthering this trend, "but up to now we've been blocked by CMHC regulations."

"Provincially, we've always taken the position that we'd like to go toward northern designs of houses, whether that means logs or whatever. We've had some difficulties in the past few years," the minister acknowledged, "because northern people don't necessarily want southern designs."

There is no shortage of suggestions in the north as to the course governments should take.

"Rather than coming up here and spending $80,000 on each house, the government would be better off to come up with some sort of grant or loan program that would encourage people to build their own homes," said Coun. Max Morin of Ile-a-la-Crosse.

"If the government offered people a $25,000 loan, people could afford to pay $100 a month for 25 years. Then it would get its money back," said Greg Ross, who is building a house in Pinehouse.

"It may seem like were a bunch of complainers," said Ile-a-la-Crosse Mayor Nap Gardiner. "But all we're really asking for, I guess, is for governments to talk to us. And listen. Don't just say: 'Here's a program, take it or leave it.'"

# CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING
## An Alternative

1. What is co-operative housing?

Co-operative housing is people joining together to provide housing for themselves on a co-operative basis. Faced with continually increasing rents, the high price of private homes, and the anonymity of most rental projects, more and more people see co-operative housing as the way to obtain a secure home, at a price they can afford, in a community environment.

In Canada there are two types of co-operative housing. The building co-operative, in which co-operators get together to build homes that they will individually own upon completion, was made famous in the Atlantic region. The newer type, which this pamphlet describes, is the non-profit continuing housing co-operative, where members jointly own the housing they live in and lease the units to themselves at cost.

Non-profit housing co-operatives can either be new construction or rehabilitated existing housing, or a combination of both.

2. How does a housing co-operative work?

Housing co-operatives are independent, self-directing, legal associations. The people living in the co-operative units form the membership of the corporation. Each resident-member has one vote in the affairs of the co-operative. Every year the members elect, from among themselves, a Board of Directors and a number of committees to manage the affairs of the co-operative.

The resident-members make monthly payments to the co-operative, which cover the cost of the mortgage, taxes and all operating costs. Items such as power are sometimes paid individually. There is no profit to anyone.

Co-operatives depend on the active participation of their member-residents for their healthy operation. This often begins with planning and designing the co-op. It definitely includes attending and participating in major decisions at members' meetings, and taking your turn on the committees and Board of Directors that run the co-op.

Before moving into the co-operative, people purchase shares in the association (in an amount set periodically by the members). This share capital is refunded to members if they leave the co-operative.

Problems have to be handled by people pitching in and helping instead of sitting back and complaining. The co-op will require the services and advice of professionals and may hire a co-ordinator, but the final decisions and responsibility rest with the members

3. Will I ever own my own unit?

Members do not individually own the units they occupy at any time.

Ownership in a continuing co-op rests with the co-op corporation. However, you have the right to permanent residency and only willful and serious breach of the co-op's occupancy by-laws or the rules agreed upon by the co-op's members is cause for termination of your right to occupancy.

4. What happens if I leave the co-operative?

Members may move out at any time, giving proper notice as indicated in the occupancy by-laws. Just as there is no purchase of the unit on moving in, there is no sale on moving out. Money paid as monthly payments is not refundable. Neither is there a possibility for capital gain, as share capital (see #2) is refunded at par value.

5. Isn't co-operative housing the same as renting?

No. There are four important advantages to non-profit co-operative housing over rental housing:

1. Housing at cost - Unlike rents, co-op housing charges rise only with increases in operating costs, and do not include any profits. Over time, co-op housing charges become significantly lower than rents for comparable private market accommodation.

2. Democratic control - Co-op housing ensures an equal voice among residents in the decisions affecting their housing. There is no landlord-tenant conflict because the residents are the landlord. Democratic control guarantees that money budgeted for maintenance is spent on maintenance and not skimmed off for extra profit while the property deteriorates.

3. Security of tenure - Members of a housing co-op own their housing jointly and enjoy the right of occupancy as long as they accept the responsibilities of membership in the co-op.

4. Community - Co-op housing provides a unique opportunity for people to build a community and to share and assist each other in ways beyond their housing needs.

6. What income do I need to join a housing co-operative?

There are no income qualifications for any individual or family. Most non-profit co-operatives attempt to maintain a broad social mix, with emphasis on those of low and moderate income.

7. How is a housing co-operative financed?

A housing co-operative obtains its mortgage from a non-government source. The private mortgage is insured by CMHC for 100% of the project's capital cost. In addition, CMHC gives an operating grant to the co-operative to lower the interest rate of the mortgage. This grant is withdrawn gradually commencing in the fourth year of operation. Federal grant money is also available for rent supplement assistance for low income households. Beginning in the fourth year, this grant money. or the "subsidy pool", grows in the same proportion as the mortgage interest grant is withdrawn.

8. What do I have to do to join a housing co-operative?

Find out if there is a housing co-operative in the area where you wish to live. Fill out a membership application and, if there are no vacancies, get on the waiting list.

If you wish to consider forming a group to develop your own housing co-operative, or if you just want information about a group in your area contact us, the Co-operative Housing Association of Saskatchewan:

Box 9203
Saskatoon, Sask.
S7K 3X5
Phone: 242-3818

#520 - 1783 Hamilton Street
Regina, Sask.
S4P 2B6
Phone: 525-2382

## Monitoring Committee starts work

The six-member committee which is to monitor the operation of the Key Lake mine met for the fist time Janaury 15. The meeting was mostly concerned with the committee's terms of reference. Further meetings are to be held, probably monthly for the next while. The terms of Key Lake's surface lease agreement require four meetings annually, at the Key Lake site.

Named to the monitoring committee were public representatives Joe Roberts of the La Ronge Indian Band, Steve Kadachuk of Cumberland House and Peter Buffin of Beauval; employee representative Ken Hubenig; company representative Frank Jantzon and government representative Mike Mercredi.

According to the terms of the surface lease agreement the monitoring committee must review annually the company's recruitment and employment program for northern residents; the commuter transportation service; the affirmative action program; utilization of scholorship funds; social and economic impact of the project; the implementation of the business opportunity plan; and the department of the environment's inspection reports. It must also perform an evaluation of company training courses.

An annual report is to be submitted to the minister of northern Saskatchewan by February 1 of each year.

## RCMP detachments to Pinehouse and Southend

Two new RCMP detachments will be added to northern Saskatchewan's existing 11 detachments later this year, followed by another early in 1983.

Southend and Pinehouse will shortly have permanent three-man detachments, while Wollaston will receive this service starting next spring. Currently serviced on a weekly fly-in basis by officers from La Ronge, the communities were selected because of their growing populations. Industrial, resource industry and tourist development are all contributing to the growth of these communities.

The new detachments will provide preventive policing rather than the present reactive type of service, and will give residents of these communities more modern standards of police service.

Men for the new postings will be drawn from the La Ronge detachment, says Corporal Gunther Mehl, officer in charge of rural areas served by La Ronge. La Ronge will be assigned two new officers in April to compensate for this. One of the officers posted to Southend will be an Indian special constable.

La Ronge currently services Southend, Pinehouse and Wollaston Lake as well as Brabant Lake and Stanley Mission on a weekly basis or on demand. Eleven of the 17 officers are assigned to rural duties, while five cover the town of La Ronge at any given time. Duties rotate every six months.

Other RCMP detachments in northern Saskatchewan include La Loche, Ile a la Crosse, Buffalo Narrows, Beauval, Green Lake, Uranium City, Stony Rapids, Pelican Narrows, Cumberland House and Creighton.

## CBC to Patuanak

Patuanak is the latest northern community to receive a TV transmitter under the CBC's accelerated coverage plan (ACP).

The community's 800 residents can now watch CBC television programming on Channel 5 and listen to rebroadcast CBC AM radio programs as well as Keewatin Kountry over an FM radio transmitter.

Sixteen northern centres currently have CBC TV transmitters, some of which extend their signals to other nearby centres. Those in the far north are fed via satellite from Vancouver, while the east side receives programming from The Pas, Man. Remaining areas pick up signals from Saskatoon via a microwave network.

The north also has a number of privately-owned TV dish antennae, picking up a variety of channels from satellites. Some also carry local programming produced right in the community.

DENOSA, FEBRUARY/1982.

Patuanak - northern hamlet SURVEY.

MALE ☐ 45% FEMALE ☐ 55% children 38%

16 - 20 yrs. ☐ 18% 21 - 25 yrs. ☐ 24% 26 - 30 yrs. ☐ 31 - 40 yrs. ☐

41 - 50 yrs. ☐ 3% 51 - 65 yrs. ☐ 2% 66 + yrs. ☐ 3%

SINGLE ☐ MARRIED ☐ OTHER ☐

NUMBER OF CHILDREN? approx 73

AGES? 0-4 yrs. ☐ 73% 5-9 yrs. ☐ 29% 10-15 yrs. ☐ 33.7%

LIVING SITUATION: WITH PARENTS ☐ 100%

WITH FAMILY ☐

OTHER ☐

EDUCATION: PRIMARY & SECONDARY ☐ 1 ☐ 9 ☐ 2 ☐ 10 ☐ 3 ☐ 11 ☐ 4 ☐ 12 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8

UNIVERSITY ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

TECHNICAL/TRADE DIPLOMA ☐ CERTIFICATE ☐

further:

40% to grade 10

10% to grade 12 → usually continue onto technical/trade

50% none or upgrading.

WAY-of-LIFE: percentage of income? MINING ☐ FISHING ☐ HUNTING ☐

GATHERING (wood/berries) ☐ FARMING (gardens, rice, micro) ☐ GUIDING ☐

other: many of these activities are seasonal and a mixture of these are combined with general labourer jobs, teaching aids, social assistance, many and entrepeneaurial activities

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| | |
|---|---|
| Date | |
| Job | |
| By | |
| Sheet | Of |

WHERE DO YOU SPEND MOST OF YOUR INCOME? (greatest → least)

- ☒ MEADOW LAKE → car maintenance
- ☐ PATUANAK
- ☐ ILE-A-LA-CROSSE
- ☐ BEAUVAL
- ☒ SASKATOON/PRINCE ALBERT. → shopping more variety.
- ☐ other ______

PRESENT HOUSING LOCATION:

- ☒ PATUANAK
- ☐ DIPPER / PELICAN / KNEE
- ☐ MEADOW LAKE
- ☐ SASKATOON / PRINCE ALBERT.
- ☐ other ______

some have seasonal cabins in these locations → DIPPER / PELICAN / KNEE

PRESENT HOUSING SITUATION

- ☒ with FAMILY
- ☐ SINGLE FAMILY
- ☐ APARTMENT
- ☐ SHARED ACCOMODATION (other than family)

generally all houses are too small for #'s

DESIRED HOUSING SITUATION IN RELATION TO PATUANAK.

- ☒ SINGLE FAMILY HOUSE
- ☒ APARTMENT
- ☐ TOWNHOUSE
- ☒ CO-OPERATIVE

other more in line with life style

REASONS for LEAVING PATUANAK:

NO WATER/SEWER ☐ NO DESIRED HOUSING ☒

NO SECONDARY SERVICES (ie stores/banks....) ☐

other ______________________________

DESIRED NEEDS/WANTS (greatest → least).

IMPROVED MAINTENANCE OF ROADS ☐ 1

BY-PASS ROAD THROUGH MUSKEG ☐ 4

COMPLETE BACK ROAD FOR CIRCLE ☐ 5

DIESEL GENERATOR AS STAND-BY ☐ 6

WATER / SEWER ☐ 3

SINGLE & COUPLE HOUSING ☐ 2

others. recreational drop-in centre for pick-up basketball, etc. daycare.

The issue of Non-Status, Status is being questioned. If you could be come statuse would you:

CONTINUE AS PRESENTLY LIVING 90% [✓ yes] no

MOVE TO RESERVE (if allowed) yes no

encorporate hamlet as a entitlement land of the reserve.

MOVE TO ANOTHER ENGLISH BAND RESERVE: PATUANAK ☐

PRIMEAU ☐ LA PLONGE ☐ DIPPER LAKE ☐ KNEE LAKE ☐